UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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| DENNIS DIMON, |) | |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| |) | |
| VS. |) | |
| |) | C. A. No: 05-11073 MEL |
| METROPOLITAN LIFE |) | |
| INSURANCE COMPANY, KEMPER |) | |
| INSURANCE COMPANY, |) | |
| MORGAN STANLEY DW, INC., |) | |
| MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI |) | |
| ASSOCIATES, and LATTI & |) | |
| ANDERSON LLP, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |
| |) | |

DEFENDANT, METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO F.R.C.P. 56

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Defendant, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), hereby moves for Summary Judgment pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56. As grounds therefore MetLife states that Summary Judgment is appropriate in this case because there are no genuine issues of material fact to be tried, and MetLife is entitled to judgment as a matter of law on Count X and Count XI of Plaintiff's Complaint, which are all claims against MetLife.

MetLife seeks Summary Judgment based upon M.G.L. c. 175, §181, under both Statute of Repose and Statute of Limitation theories. Further, MetLife seeks Summary Judgment based

upon the separate Statutes of Limitation provided for in M.G.L. c. 260, §2 and M.G.L. c. 260, §2A.

II. RELEVANT FACTS

This case stems from a personal injury lawsuit that was filed over twenty-five years ago in 1981. In that underlying action Plaintiff, Denis Dimon ("Mr. Dimon"), was a commercial fisherman who had been engaged on a fishing vessel named "Jenny C" when he suffered injuries that led to the loss of an eye. See Plaintiff's Complaint, ¶ 10, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "A". Mr. Dimon, through his attorneys, Latti Associates (Co-Defendants in the case at bar), sued the owner of the vessel, Jenny C., Inc. in Federal District Court for the District of Rhode Island in 1981. See Complaint of Dennis Jay Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc. attached hereto as EXHIBIT "B". Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc. made its way through the litigation process, and at trial Mr. Dimon obtained a verdict in his favor for \$710,000.00. See EXHIBIT "A" at ¶ 11.

The parties to <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u>, both actual litigants as well as interested entities not named in the litigation¹, settled the case post-verdict. <u>See EXHIBIT</u> "A" at ¶ 12 and ¶ 14; <u>See also Settlement Sheet</u>, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "C". After the settlement was reached, an application was submitted to Charter Security Life Insurance Company ("Charter"). The application sought an annuity that would provide Mr. Dimon with monthly payments for twenty years certain. <u>See Annuity Application of Denis Dimon dated May 4</u>, 1983, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "D"; <u>See also Correspondence from MetLife to Dimon dated June 9</u>, 2003, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "E".

Since 1983 when the settlement was reached, many of the parties involved have either changed their name or have merged with other entities. Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. ("Dean

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¹ American Motorists Insurance Company was the excess insurer of the vessel, "Jenny C.", when Mr. Dimon was injured, and was involved in the post-verdict settlement negotiations.

Witter"), the agency that took the Application for Mr. Dimon's annuity, merged with Morgan Stanley DW, Inc. See EXHIBIT "A" at ¶ 18. Charter, who issued the Annuity Contract for Mr. Dimon in 1983, was subsequently purchased by MetLife. See EXHIBIT "A" at ¶ 20. Finally, American Motorists Insurance Company ("American Motorists"), the insurance carrier for Jenny C., Inc., was a subsidiary of the Kemper Group, and is no longer in existence as a separate entity from Kemper. See EXHIBIT "A" at ¶ 17; See also Correspondence from American Motorists to Dean Witter dated August 12, 1983, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "F".

There is no dispute that Mr. Dimon and Latti Associates, his attorneys, received the lump sum payment called for in the settlement. Mr. Dimon filed this Complaint on May 23, 2005 based on the terms of the Annuity issued and whether a mistake was made. It is important to note that neither Charter, the Annuity issuer, nor MetLife who later purchased Charter, were involved in the Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc. litigation or post-verdict settlement discussions.

Charter issued an Annuity on May 5, 1983 ("Annuity").² That Annuity is the subject of this litigation. The Annuity was issued based upon an application that identified Mr. Dimon as the annuitant, American Motorists as the applicant and Kurt Snyder³ as the agent who took the application. See EXHIBIT "D". Roger Hughes of Latti Associates had been identified in letters exchanged between Charter and American Motorists as the person who provided information regarding the terms of the annuity. See EXHIBIT "F"; See also Correspondence from Charter to American Motorists dated September 26, 1983, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "G"; and Correspondence from American Motorists to Charter dated October 10, 1983, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "H".

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² The Annuity contract issued contained a clerical error regarding the term of the annuity payments. The original contract provided that the annuity would pay for 20 years certain then life thereafter. This is the clerical error noted by Charter in subsequent letters. See below.

³ Kurt Snyder was a representative of Dean Witter at the time the application for the Annuity was submitted. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "L" <u>L. Schmitt Dep. Tr.</u> at 20:8-17.

The original Annuity contained a typographical error in the payment term, i.e. the length of time payments were to be made. See Correspondence from Charter to Dean Witter dated July 14, 1983, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "I". The typographical error was discovered by Charter a few weeks after the Annuity was issued. Charter, by letter dated July 14, 1983 (from Barbara Boehm at Charter to Kurt Snyder at Dean Witter), alerted Dean Witter that the Annuity contained a clerical mistake. Id. Following the July 14th letter, several letters were exchanged between Charter, American Motorists and Dean Witter addressing the terms of the Annuity. These letters are as follows:

| August 12, 1983 | Letter from John Noe, of American Motorists to Robert Foley of Dean Witter. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "F"; |
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| September 26, 1983 | Letter from Robert Liguori of Charter to John Noe of American Motorists. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "G"; |
| October 10, 1983 | Letter from John Noe of American Motorists to Robert Liguori of Charter. See EXHIBIT "H"; |
| October 14, 1983 | Letter from Barbara Boehm of Charter to John Noe of American Motorists attached hereto as EXHIBIT "J"; and |
| October 12, 1983 ⁴ | Letter from John Noe of American Motorists to Barbara Boehm of Charter attached hereto as EXHIBIT "K". |

These letters address the contentions of the parties regarding the terms of the Annuity and the negotiating process. In Exhibit "F", John Noe of American Motorists wrote to Robert Foley of Dean Witter asserting that his understanding, apparently gained through a discussion with Roger Hughes of Latti Associates, was that Mr. Foley quoted the costs of an annuity that would provide annually increasing lifetime payments, guaranteed for twenty years. See EXHIBIT "F". It is important to note that Mr. Noe does not assert that a lifetime annuity was applied for, or that

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⁴ This letter appears to be incorrectly dated, as it refers to the October 14, 1983 letter from Barbara Boehm but is dated October 12, 1983.

Charter was aware that the settlement of <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> may have been a lifetime annuity with a guarantee period.

In follow up to Exhibit "G", Robert Liguori of Charter wrote to John Noe of American Motorists. See EXHIBIT "G". In Exhibit "H", Mr. Liguori corrected Mr. Noe and explained that the Application submitted by American Motorists was for "...a single premium immediate annuity with a 20 year (i.e. 240 months) certain period." Mr. Noe responded by asserting that the sections describing the Annuity terms and listing the quote number were blank at the time he signed the Application. See EXHIBIT "H". For his part, Mr. Dimon has no recollection of what sections were filled out when he signed the Application at Latti Associates. See D. Dimon Dep. Tr. at 110:14-16, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "M".

The series of correspondence contained in Exhibits "I", "J", "G", "H" and "K" can be viewed as a capsulation of the positions of American Motorists and Charter. American Motorists refused to return the contract that contained the error regarding the terms of the payment. See EXHIBIT "K". Charter took the position that it would honor its obligations to pay Mr. Dimon for 20 years (i.e. 240 months), but confirmed in 1983 that "[n]o payments will be made beyond the expiration of the 240 month period." See EXHIBIT "G".

Several of these letters were copied to Mr. Dimon's attorneys, Latti Associates. <u>See</u> EXHIBITS "J", "F", "G", "H" and "K". After the last of these letters, in October of 1983⁵, there is no evidence of any further correspondence regarding the terms of the Annuity until September of 1999.

The law firm of Latti Associates represented Mr. Dimon in <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc. See</u>
M. Latti Dep. Tr. at 25:6-21, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "N". Specifically, a lawyer named

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⁵ Because of the apparent misdating of EXHIBIT "K", it is not clear exactly when this exchange of correspondence came to a close.

Joseph Flannery was the lead attorney responsible for the <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> case.

Attorney Flannery tried the case to verdict, and subsequently negotiated the settlement. <u>Id.</u> at 26:4-9 and 31:13-15. Attorney Flannery left Latti Associates shortly before the settlement was finalized. <u>Id.</u> at 26:11. Attorney Flannery has since passed away. <u>See</u> R. Hughes Dep. Tr. at 34:19-20, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "O". Roger Hughes, a partner at Latti Associates, oversaw Attorney Flannery's representation of Mr. Dimon and, in fact, actively represented Mr. Dimon during portions of the litigation. Michael Latti, the named partner at Latti Associates, personally persuaded Mr. Dimon to remain with Latti Associates as a client when Attorney Flannery left Latti Associates. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "N" at 26:16-17.

As set forth above, Latti Associates received carbon copies of the letters notifying Dean Witter and American Motorists of the terms of the Annuity that was purchased. <u>See EXHIBITS</u> "I", "F", "G", "H", and "K". Both Attorney Latti and Attorney Hughes confirmed that the address used for Latti Associates on the letters in question was the correct address. <u>See EXHIBIT "N" at 32:16-18; See also EXHIBIT "O" at 42:22 – 43:1.</u> Neither Attorney Latti nor Attorney Hughes could definitively recall at their depositions there being any problem with Latti Associates' ability to receive mail during the relevant period in 1983. <u>See EXHIBIT "N" at 32:19 – 33:14; See also EXHIBIT "O" at 43:2-11.</u>

Latti Associates, through Attorney Hughes, therefore had knowledge in 1983 that the typographical error made in the Annuity had been corrected. John Noe of American Motorists asserted in a letter dated August 12, 1983 that "I am advised by Mr. Hughes of Lattie [sic] Associates that your quotation was to provide..." a lifetime Annuity with a 20 year certain period. See EXHIBIT "G". Mr. Noe also confirmed that Attorney Hughes of Latti Associates had discussed in 1983 the possibility of bringing a Declaratory Judgment action to clarify the

terms of the Annuity if the dispute could not be resolved. <u>See</u> Memorandum from John Noe to Klaus Lemhoffer dated 11/8/83, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "P". Additionally, Mr. Noe made clear in his correspondence that Attorney Hughes had "threatened Mr. Foley (of Dean Witter) with an [E]rrors and [O]missions claim." <u>Id.</u> No timely action, however, was brought on behalf of Mr. Dimon by Latti Associates when the terms of the Annuity were clarified in 1983.

At his deposition, Attorney Hughes was unable to recall <u>any</u> details of the dispute regarding the terms of the Annuity. Attorney Latti was likewise unable to recall any of the relevant events in 1983 at his deposition, but asserted that Attorney Hughes was primarily running the firm in 1983 as Attorney Latti was either ailing or recovering from back surgery for portions of 1982 and 1983. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "N" at 19:17 – 21:3.

In September of 1999, Katherine Dimon ("Mrs. Dimon"), on behalf of her husband, Mr. Dimon, contacted MetLife seeking information on the terms of the Annuity. See K. Dimon Dep. Tr. at 10:3-18 attached hereto as EXHIBIT "Q". Following Mrs. Dimon's telephone call, MetLife sent a letter to Mr. Dimon. See September 24, 1999 Letter from Theresa Thorp to Dennis Dimon attached hereto as EXHIBIT "R". This letter, *inter alia*, notified Mr. Dimon that his payments under the terms of the Annuity Contract that was issued on May 5, 1983 would cease on May 5, 2003.

At her deposition, Mrs. Dimon testified that she and her husband used the Annuity as an income source for purposes of securing a mortgage in 1999 to purchase a residence in Rhode Island. See EXHIBIT "Q" at 71:16-20. Mrs. Dimon further testified that she was notified by her bank that it had obtained information that was contradictory to what the Dimons had represented on their mortgage application. Id. More specifically, that the bank told her that they (the Dimons) had indicated as an income source on their mortgage application a lifetime benefit

(i.e., the Annuity) which was guaranteed for 20 years, but MetLife informed the bank that the Annuity was only for 20 years. See Id. at 67:24 – 68:2. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Dimon took any action after being notified by their bank, and again by MetLife in the September 24, 1999 correspondence, that there was a dispute regarding the terms of the Annuity. It was not until 2003 when the payments stopped that the Dimons took action regarding the Annuity and filed this lawsuit.

Over twenty-two years have passed since the issuance of the involved Annuity in May of 1983, and the filing of the Complaint in this case. Time and world events have taken a heavy toll on the evidence available. Mr. Dimon summarized it best at his deposition: "[y]ou know, it's so long ago, it's hard to remember exactly what was going on at that time." See EXHIBIT "M" at 44:10-11.

The attorney primarily responsible for handling Mr. Dimon's case has passed away. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "O" at 34:19-20. It has been represented that all of the documents that were in the possession of Latti Associates relative to this case were destroyed pursuant to its document retention policy. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "N" at 74:17 – 75:16. The records held by Dean Witter (now Morgan Stanley DW, Inc.) were lost in the World Trade Center tragedy on September 11, 2001. <u>See</u> EXHIBIT "L" at 27:5-18. Roger Hughes, the attorney who handled finalizing the <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> settlement, has no independent recollection of the settlement, and could not even identify his client, Mr. Dimon, if he walked in the same room. So much time passed between 1983, when the underlying settlement was completed and the Annuity in question was issued,

⁶ Attorney Hughes testified at his deposition that "[i]f [Mr. Dimon] walked into the room today, I wouldn't know." <u>See EXHIBIT</u> "O" at 19:4-5. Moreover, Attorney Hughes testified that he had "no independent recollection" of the terms of the settlement in <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> <u>Id.</u> at 20:6.

and the time of his deposition that Attorney Hughes could not even definitively identify the name of the firm at which he was then a partner. Id. at 43:18-19.

The intervening twenty-two years between when the Annuity was contracted and Mr.

Dimon filed the Complaint in this action have caused most of the salient evidence in this case to be lost, destroyed or unavailable due to faded memories and unattainable witnesses.

III. ARGUMENT

A. SUMMARY JUDGMENT IS APPROPRIATE AS THERE ARE NO GENUINE ISSUES OF MATERIAL FACT AND METLIFE IS ENTITLED TO JUDGMENT AS A MATTER OF LAW.

Summary Judgment is appropriate when "pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue of material fact and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(C). "When a party fails to make a showing sufficient to establish the existence of an element essential to that party's case, and on which that party bears the burden of proof at trial, there can no longer be a genuine issue as to any material fact ... and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Smith v. Stratus Computer, Inc., 40 F.3d 11, 12 (lst Cir. 1994), cert. denied, 115 S. Ct. 1958 (1995) (citation omitted).

Summary judgment is not "a disfavored procedural shortcut"; rather, it is an integral part of the judicial system "designed 'to secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action." Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 327 (1986) (quoting Fed. F. Civ. P. 1); See also Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242 (1986).

When, as in the present case, there is no genuine issue of material fact, summary judgment should be granted to MetLife, as the moving party, to promote judicial economy.

⁷ Attorney Hughes testified: "I think it was Latti & Associates. I'm not sure anymore."

Here, the facts presented by Plaintiff's Complaint, as well as the undisputed facts gleaned from the depositions and documents in this case, are more than sufficient to grant Defendant, MetLife summary judgment.

B. COUNT X AND COUNT XI OF PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFENDANT, METLIFE, ARE BARRED BY M.G.L. C. 175, §181.

Mr. Dimon's claims for breach of contract and misrepresentation are untimely and, therefore, barred by M.G.L. 175, §181 ("§181").

§181 provides, in pertinent part, that "[n]o company, no officer or agent thereof ... shall make, issue, circulate or use, or cause or permit to be made, issued, circulated or used, any written or oral statement misrepresenting the terms of ... any annuity ... issued or to be issued by any company, or the benefits or privileges promised thereunder." Further, §181 provides that "the holder of any annuity ... who was induced to procure it by any action in violation of this section by an officer or agent of the company issuing or executing it may recover from such company all premiums paid on such policy or contract less any indebtedness to the company thereon or secured thereby and less any payments otherwise made by the company thereon, in an action brought within two years after the date of issue thereof." Emphasis added. The Annuity at issue in this case was issued on May 5, 1983; as such, a timely claim on this Annuity needed to be filed no later than May 5, 1985.

Mr. Dimon has asserted two claims against MetLife. One based on an alleged negligent misrepresentation, and a second based on an alleged breach of contract. The basis for both claims is the same set of facts: that Charter allegedly misrepresented the terms of the Annuity issued to Mr. Dimon.

For purposes of analyzing Plaintiff's claims pursuant to §181, the Court must look to the gravamen of the claims and not the labels used by Plaintiff in pleading his Complaint. Grande v. <u>PFL Life Ins. Co.</u>, 2000 Mass. App. Div. 261, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "S". Plaintiff's breach of contract and negligent misrepresentation claims are covered under the two-year limitations period of §181 because Mr. Dimon's claims are grounded in misrepresentation.

In Grande v. PFL Life Ins. Co., the plaintiff sought to recover from the defendant, PFL Life Insurance Company ("PFL"), based on alleged deceptive acts in connection with its sale to the plaintiff of a life insurance policy instead of the annuity policy plaintiff thought she was purchasing. 2000 Mass. App. Div. 261. PFL filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings, which the Court treated as a motion for summary judgment, arguing that the plaintiff's claims were barred by the applicable statute of limitations – M.G.L. c. 175, §181. Id. The lower court in Grande granted the motion for summary judgment. Id. The Massachusetts Appeals Court affirmed and held that the plaintiff's claims for breach of contract and conversion were timebarred under the two-year statute of limitations set forth in §181 because "[a]lthough Grande's first claim is for breach of contract, it is the 'gravamen' of [her] complaint [as one for misrepresentation] which dictates the applicable statute of limitations." Id.

There are two related interpretations of the limitations period contained in §181. The §181 limitations period has been applied as <u>both</u> a period of repose, as well as a period of limitation. For reasons more fully discussed below, under either the repose or limitations theory, Mr. Dimon's claims in this case are barred by §181.

1. <u>M.G.L. c. 175, §181 is a Statute of Repose.</u>

§181 contains a statute of repose, as opposed to a mere limitation on actions period. It is an absolute bar to claims not brought within two years of the date of issue of an annuity. In Passatempo v. McMenimen, 20 Mass. L. Rep. 593 (2006), the Court held that "this Court concludes and rules that [M.]G.L. c. 175, sec.181, contains a statute of repose that is entirely

consistent with the Supreme Judicial Court's recent decisions in Joslyn [v. Chang], 445 Mass. 344, ... and Rudenauer [v. Zafiropoulos], 445 Mass. 353...". Rudenauer only requires a triggering date. "A repose period begins to run from some 'definitely established event." Rudenauer v. Zafiropoulos, 445 Mass. 353, 358 (2005).

The purpose of a statute of repose is "to give particular types of defendants the benefit of a date certain on which their liability for past conduct will definitively come to an end." Nett v. Bellucci, 437 Mass. 630, 639 (2002). "There comes a time when [a defendant] ought to be secure in his reasonable expectation that the slate has been wiped clean of ancient obligations, and he ought not be called on to resist a claim 'when evidence has been lost, memories have faded, and witnesses have disappeared." Id., citing Klein v. Catalano, 386 Mass. 701, 709 (1982), quoting Rosenberg v. North Bergen, 61 N.J. 190, 201 (1972).

In the instant case, the 'event' in §181 that triggered the running of the repose period was the issuance of the Annuity. The period of repose began to run on May 5, 1983, the date the Annuity was issued, and expired on May 5, 1985, two years later. The "types" of defendants afforded the protection of the repose period are insurance companies like MetLife.

As evidenced by the testimony of each of the witnesses (who could be found or who are still living) that were personally involved, namely Katherine Dimon, Dennis Dimon, Michael Latti and Roger Hughes, this case presents the perfect example of why a repose period is necessary and ought to be applied. Memories have faded, evidence has been lost, and witnesses have died or cannot be found. As stated by Mr. Dimon in response to a question regarding his meetings in 1983 with Mr. Decof, the Guardian ad litem appointed by the Federal District Court - Rhode Island, "[y]ou know, it's so long ago, it's hard to remember exactly what was going on at that time." See EXHIBIT "M" at 44:10-11.

Mr. Dimon's statement sums up nicely the state of the testimonial evidence in this case. Mr. Hughes, one of the partners at Latti Associates in 1983 and the attorney who personally appeared on behalf of Mr. Dimon in Court, testified that "[i]f [Mr. Dimon] walked into the room today, I wouldn't know." See EXHIBIT "O" at 19:4-5. Further Mr. Hughes testified that he had "no independent recollection" of the terms of the settlement in Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc. Id. at 20:6. Given that over two decades have passed since Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc., Mr. Hughes could not even identify the proper name of the firm at which he was the managing partner at the time. Id. at 43:18-19.

"Like all statutes of repose, 'the effect [of these statutes] is to place an absolute time limit on the liability of those within [their] protection and to abolish a plaintiff's cause of action thereafter, even if the plaintiff's injury does not occur, or is not discovered, until after the statute's time limit has expired." Nett v. Bellucci, 437 Mass. 630, 635 (2002), citing McGuinness v. Cotter, 412 Mass. 617, 622 (1992), citing Klein v. Catalano, 386 Mass. 701, 702 (1982). Emphasis added. Statutes of repose, unlike statutes of limitation, cannot be tolled for any reason unless the statute contains within it a specific tolling provision. "[S]tatutes of repose may not be 'tolled' for any reason, as 'tolling' would deprive the defendant of the certainty of the repose deadline and thereby defeat the purpose of a statute of repose." Id. (internal citations omitted).

§181 has no tolling provision whatsoever. Therefore, as set forth above, the May 5, 1985 deadline cannot be tolled for any reason(s). Any claim Plaintiff had regarding his Annuity against MetLife expired at the end of the repose period. Moreover, Mr. Dimon's knowledge of the alleged misrepresentations or breach (when he knew or should have known of his cause of action) is irrelevant. He failed to commence his action on or before May 5, 1985 and, therefore, his causes of action are, to use the term quoted in Rudenauer, "abolished."

MetLife is entitled to Judgment as a matter of law based upon the application of the twoyear repose period contained in §181.

2. M.G.L. c. 175, §181 is a Statute of Limitations.

If this Court finds that the statute of repose in §181 is not applicable, or that the prior decisional authority needs to be overturned, then MetLife alternatively is entitled to summary judgment because §181 is a statute of limitations that imposes a two-year limitations period to claims that arise from alleged misrepresentation by an insurance company with respect to Annuities.

Although the general statute of limitations period for misrepresentation is three years (as set forth at M.G.L. c. 260, § 2A), Massachusetts courts have recognized that §181 is a "special provision" that preempts the general statute. See Grande v. PFL Life Ins. Co., 2000 Mass. App. Div. 261, (providing that "Section 19 of [M.]G.L.c. 260 provides, however, that 'if a special provision is otherwise made relative to the limitation of any action, any provision of this chapter inconsistent therewith shall not apply'); See also Slingsby v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., 2001 Mass. App. Div. 49 (2001).

Mr. Dimon's breach of contract claim is also covered under the two-year statute of limitations of §181 because Plaintiff's causes of action are grounded in misrepresentation. In Grande, as noted above, Plaintiff brought claims for breach of contract and conversion. Id. The Massachusetts Court of Appeals affirmed and held that the plaintiff's claims for breach of contract and conversion were time-barred under the two-year statute of limitations set forth in §181. The Grande court found plaintiff's breach of contract claim was really a misrepresentation claim because, "... it is the 'gravamen of [her] complaint [as one for misrepresentation] which dictates the applicable statute of limitations." Id. Both Mr. Dimon's breach of contract and

negligent misrepresentation claims are subject to the two-year limitations period contained in §181 as his claims, at least as they pertain to MetLife, are solely based on the alleged misrepresentation of the Annuity's terms.

C. RUNNING OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.

Several events occurred over the twenty-two years between the issuance of Annuity and the commencement of Mr. Dimon's Complaint. Each of these events when taken either individually, or *en toto*, compel the conclusion that Mr. Dimon knew or should have known of his causes of action many years ago and, therefore, his Complaint is untimely.

Two specific events would have triggered the running of a statute of limitations in this case:

- 1. Mr. Dimon's attorneys' Latti Associates, knowledge of the error that was corrected regarding the term of the Annuity in 1983; and/or
- 2. Mr. Dimon's personal knowledge in September of 1999 that MetLife had, in 1983, corrected the typographic error and that his Annuity was for 20 years certain rather than for life with the first 20 years guaranteed.

In Massachusetts an attorney's knowledge is imputed to the client, even where the client denies that they had the same information as the attorney. "Levin [the client] denies knowledge of the letter, but a client is charged with the knowledge of his attorney." Levin v. Berley, 728 F.2d 551, 553 (1st Cir. 1984); citing Continental Casualty Co. v. United States, 337 F.2d 602, 603 (1st Cir. 1964); Quinn v. Hintlian, 4 Mass. App. Ct. 805, 805 (1976); cf. Flynn v. Wallace, 359 Mass. 711, 717 (1971). Based on this case law, Mr. Dimon is charged with knowledge of the dispute regarding the terms of the Annuity in 1983, twenty-two years before he filed his Complaint, when his attorneys corresponded with Charter and/or American Motorists.

Latti Associates' knowledge is imputed to Mr. Dimon. The undisputed facts of this case show that Latti Associates knew of the disagreement regarding the terms of the Annuity in the

Summer of 1983. Latti Associates was carbon copied with letters between other entities setting forth the dispute and the positions that those entities took relative to that dispute. Although Mr.

forth the dispute and the positions that those entities took relative to that dispute. Although Mr. Hughes has no recollection of the settlement in <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> because of the two decades that have passed, Mr. Noe documented in both a letter (<u>see EXHIBIT</u> "G"), and a memorandum (<u>see EXHIBIT</u> "P"), that Attorney Hughes was aware of the dispute and that he took the position that Mr. Foley, of Dean Witter, had committed either an error or omission that would subject Mr. Foley to a claim. It appears from Mr. Noe's documentation that Attorney Hughes also considered bringing a Declaratory Judgment action if the dispute was not resolved. As Mr. Dimon's attorney and agent, Attorney Hughes did not protect Mr. Dimon within the limitations period.

Assuming *arguendo* that there was a breach or misrepresentation, it occurred, if at all, in 1983. Because Mr. Dimon's attorneys' knowledge is imputed to him as noted above, Mr. Dimon had <u>actual</u> knowledge of his claim. In fact, Mr. Dimon agrees that the misrepresentation or breach occurred in 1983: Mr. Dimon's expert in <u>this</u> case, Attorney Hans Hailey, testified that "[m]ore concretely, the controversy [regarding the terms of the annuity] involved an actual breach of the contract in 1983." <u>See Hans Hailey Report</u> dated November 10, 2006, at 6, attached hereto as EXHIBIT "T". Thus, Mr. Dimon <u>agrees</u> "that breach was enforceable in 1983." <u>Id.</u> As such, there are no disputed facts that could preclude this Court from issuing Judgment to MetLife.

D. THE STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS SHOULD NOT BE TOLLED.

There is no reason to toll the statutes of limitations in this matter. In Massachusetts, there are only three circumstances that may give rise to tolling of the limitations period:

1. Where a misrepresentation concerns a fact that was "inherently unknowable";

- 2. Where a wrongdoer breached some duty of disclosure; or
- 3. Where a wrongdoer concealed the existence of a cause of action through some affirmative act done with the intent to deceive.

See Loguidice v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company et al, 336 F.3d 1, 6 (1st Cir. 2003); citing Patsos v. First Albany Corp., 433 Mass. 323 (2001) (citations omitted). None of the above circumstances apply to the case at bar.

The ongoing dispute in 1983 over the terms of the Annuity, and Charter's position that a clerical error had been made, was known to Mr. Dimon not only through his attorney in 1983, but also through his direct communication with MetLife in 1999. Mr. Dimon cannot now claim that the facts upon which he uses to support his Complaint against MetLife were "inherently unknowable." Mr. Dimon has not asserted in his Complaint, and cannot now assert, that MetLife breached any duty to disclose something that was not disclosed in 1983.

In fact, MetLife did disclose facts that should have alerted Mr. Dimon (and/or his attorneys) that he might have a cause of action. Charter, in 1983, and MetLife, in 1999, both took affirmative actions, i.e. put Mr. Dimon on notice in writing either through counsel or directly, of the terms of the Annuity that was purchased on his behalf. As such, Mr. Dimon had sufficient information on each of those occasions to decide if he had a cause of action on which to proceed. Moreover, Mr. Dimon's attorneys, whose duty it was to protect him in procuring his settlement proceeds, had actual knowledge that there was a dispute regarding the terms of the Annuity. Based on the above, there is no basis to toll the statutes of limitation on Mr. Dimon's claims.

E. THE NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION COUNT ALLEGED BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST METLIFE IS BARRED PURSUANT TO THE THREE-YEAR LIMITATION OF ACTION PERIOD PRESCRIBED BY MASSACHUSETTS LAW.

Even if §181 did not exist, based upon the three-year limitations period contained in M.G.L. c. 260, §2A, Mr. Dimon should have brought his claim for negligent misrepresentation by May 5, 1986, three years after his attorney was informed of the error in the Annuity. Alternatively, Mr. Dimon should have brought his claim for negligent misrepresentation by September 24, 2002, three years after he was informed by MetLife that his annuity payments were going to cease on May 5, 2003.

Mr. Dimon is barred from pursuing his claim for negligent misrepresentation because he failed to bring his claim within the applicable statute of limitations. Mr. Dimon, at the latest, could have brought a claim before September 24, 2002. He did not file his complaint until May, 2005, therefore his claim for negligent misrepresentation is barred by M.G.L. c. 260, §2A.

F. THE BREACH OF CONTRACT COUNT ALLEGED BY PLAINTIFF AGAINST METLIFE IS BARRED PURSUANT TO THE SIX-YEAR LIMITATION OF ACTION PERIOD PRESCRIBED BY MASSACHUSETTS LAW.

The six-year limitation of action period in M.G.L. c. 260, §2, precludes recovery in this action because Mr. Dimon and his attorneys failed to bring suit against MetLife within the limitations period. Even though Mr. Dimon's claims against MetLife are based on misrepresentations of the terms of the Annuity, as noted above, by May of 1983 Mr. Dimon's attorneys' knew that a dispute had occurred regarding the terms of the Annuity issued by Charter. Because their knowledge is imputed to Mr. Dimon, he should have brought his claim by mid-1989. Because he did not bring his claim until May, 2005, sixteen years after the limitations period expired, he is barred from pursuing the claim for breach of contract.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, MetLife's Motion for Summary Judgment pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 should be granted.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, respectfully requests that this Honorable Court grant its Motion for Summary Judgment on all Counts of Plaintiff's Complaint against Metropolitan Life Insurance Company based on the fact that the Statute of Repose contained in M.G.L. 175, §181 barred any claim regarding Plaintiff's Annuity that issued in 1983. Alternatively, the limitations period contained in M.G.L. 175, §181, if treated as a Statute of Limitation, would result in the running of the statute, and the expiration of the time within which Plaintiff could file a cause of action. If the Court determines that Plaintiff's claims are not subject to M.G.L. 175, §181, then the three year Statute of Limitation period for torts and six year Statute of Limitation period for contracts still bars Plaintiff's claims against Defendant, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

> Respectfully submitted, METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, By its Attorneys,

/s/ James J. Ciapciak_ James J. Ciapciak, BBO #: 552328 Peter M. LeBlanc, BBO # 645302 CIAPCIAK & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 99 Access Road Norwood, MA 02062 Tel: (781) 255-7401

Fax: (781) 255-7402

LOCAL RULE 7.1(A)(2) CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on December 29, 2006, I contacted Plaintiff's counsel and we conferred and attempted in good faith to resolve or narrow the issues pursuant to L.R. 7.1(A)(2).

> /s/ James J. Ciapciak James J. Ciapciak

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing document was filed via the ECF system and will be served electronically through that system upon Counsel of Record on – January 2, 2007.

/s/ James J. Ciapciak James J. Ciapciak

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

LS DISTINO 55S ITO 73 REK

DENNIS DIMON,
Plaintiff
)
vs.

MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI
ASSOCIATES, LATTI & ANDERSON
LLP METROPOLITAN LIFE
)

COMPLAINT

LLP, METROPOLITAN LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY, KEMPER
INSURANCE COMPANY, and
MORGAN STANLEY DW, INC.,
Defendants

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a contract and malpractice action for monetary relief resulting from the premature cancellation of the plaintiff's structured settlement payments, which occurred on or about May 5, 2003 when the defendants ceased paying the settlement due the plaintiff as a result of a personal injury action in 1983. The plaintiff released the defendant shipowner in his personal injury action in consideration of a life annuity guaranteed for 20 years which the court approved. The plaintiff asserts a cause of action against the defendants based upon their breach of the settlement contract and for the breach of fiduciary duties by his former attorney.

JURISDICTION

2. Jurisdiction is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C., sec. 1332(a). Venue is proper in the

PARTIES

- The plaintiff, Dennis Dimon, is of legal age and resides in West Kingston, Rhode
 Island.
- 4. The defendant, Michael B. Latti, is now a resident of the State of Maine and a lawyer licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who formerly resided in and practiced law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1983.
- 5. The defendant, Latti Associates, was a law firm created under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Michael B. Latti, with a principal place of business at 30-31 Union Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 6. The defendant, Latti & Anderson, LLP, is a law firm created under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with a principal place of business at 30-31 Union Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts and is the successor in interest to Latti Associates.
- 7. The defendant, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is an insurance company with a principal place of business in New York, New York, and regularly conducts business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 8. The defendant, Kemper Insurance Company is an insurance company with a principal place of business in Long Grove, Illinois, which regularly conducts business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 9. The defendant, Morgan Stanley, is a brokerage company with a principal place of business in New York, New York, and regularly conducts business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 10. In 1981, the plaintiff was severely injured while serving as a member of the crew aboard the F/V/ JENNY C, resulting in the loss of his eye.
- 11. On or about February 4, 1983, following a trial, a jury awarded the plaintiff \$710,000 for his injuries against the defendant, Jenny C., Inc.
- 12. The plaintiff was represented at all times for the trial and subsequent settlement by Latti Associates, operated under the authority of Michael B. Latti.
- 13. Latti & Anderson, LLP is the successor in interest to Latti Associates.
- 14. Following the verdict, the parties entered into a settlement agreement, approved by the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island and a *guardian ad litem* appointed by the court, providing the plaintiff with a lump sum payment of \$250,000 and an annuity for the life of the plaintiff and guaranteed for twenty (20) years which would continue for the life of the plaintiff. The annuity would pay the plaintiff a set amount (beginning at \$1,450.45) each month with the amount increasing by three (3) percent each year.
- 15. Prior to the settlement the court appointed Leonard Decof, Esquire as *guardian ad litem* to review the settlement and to report to the court.
- 16. The *guardian ad litem* was appointed by the court due to the plaintiff's inability to read or understand the settlement contract and was an extra measure by the court to protect the plaintiff even though he had separate counsel through Latti Associates.
- 17. American Motorists Insurance Company (now Kemper Insurance Company) applied for the annuity.

- Dean Witter, Inc. (now Morgan Stanley), acting as the agent and broker for American 18. Motorists Insurance Company, arranged for the lifetime annuity.
- The defendant Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (formerly Charter Security 19. Insurance Company), provided the annuity beginning June 5, 1983.
- On or about June 14, 1983, Charter Security Life Insurance (now Metropolitan Life 20. Insurance Company) informed Dean Witter, Inc. (now Morgan Stanley) that a clerical error had been made on the annuity contract and that the contract should have read for 240 months (20 years) rather than for life with a guarantee of twenty (20) years.
- On or about September 26, 1983, Charter Security Life Insurance (now Metropolitan 21. Life Insurance Company) informed American Motorists (now Kemper Insurance) and Latti Associates of the clerical error described in paragraph 20.
- A supplementary document changing the contract from life, guaranteed for twenty 22. (20) years to twenty (20) years only was forwarded to each of the insurance companies and Latti Associates.
- 23. The plaintiff was not advised of this change nor was the court or guardian ad litem informed of the alleged clerical error upon which the plaintiff, court, and guardian ad litem had relied in accepting the settlement agreement.
- On May 5, 2003, the defendant Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, stopped 24. payment on the plaintiff's settlement, stating that the annuity was only for a fixed period of twenty years rather than for the life of the plaintiff.
- 25. Upon the suspension of payments, the plaintiff attempted to contact his former lawyer at Latti Associates, now Latti & Anderson, but was informed that no file

existed and that the firm could not help him.

COUNT I

(Dennis Dimon v. Michael B. Latti -Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

- 26. Paragraphs 1-25 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 27. A lawyer has a duty to act in the best interest of his client and not to act in any way adverse or contrary to the interests of the client.
- 28. The plaintiff relied upon the defendant for advice, counsel, and information in order to make an informed decision prior to entering into any settlement agreement whereby the plaintiff would forfeit his rights to future compensation for his injuries.
- 29. The defendant, in breach of his fiduciary duty, represented to the plaintiff that the annuity was for life with a guarantee of twenty (20) years.
- 30. Due to the defendant's breach, the plaintiff has suffered financial loss.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- 1. That this Court, under Count I, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant for breach of fiduciary duty.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT II

(Dennis Dimon v. Michael B. Latti -Negligence)

- 31. Paragraphs 1-30 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 32. A lawyer has a duty to act with reasonable care and to use the skill of a reasonably competent lawyer in representing a client.

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- The defendant failed to act reasonably in not informing the plaintiff of the alleged 33. clerical error changing the terms of the annuity.
- Due to the actions of the defendant, the plaintiff suffered financial loss. 34.

REOUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count II, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff. 1.
- For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate. 2.

COUNT III

(Dennis Dimon v. Michael B. Latti -Breach of Contract)

- Paragraphs 1-34 are realleged and incorporated by reference. 35.
- The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract for the defendant to provide 36. legal representation for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing boat accident.
- The defendant breached this contract by failing to provide competent legal 37. representation, in failing to inform the plaintiff of an alleged clerical error changing the plaintiff's settlement agreement, and failing to ensure that the plaintiff understood the alleged changes to the settlement agreement.
- The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract. 38.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count III, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff 1. against the defendant for breach of contract.
- For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate. 2.

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COUNT IV

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti Associates-Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

- 39. Paragraphs 1-38 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 40. A lawyer has a duty to act in the best interest of his client and not to act in any way adverse or contrary to the interests of the client.
- 41. The plaintiff relied upon the defendant law firm for advice, counsel, and information in order to make an informed decision prior to entering into any settlement agreement whereby the plaintiff would forfeit his rights to future compensation for his injuries.
- 42. Due to the defendant's breach, the plaintiff has suffered financial loss.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- 1. That this Court, under Count IV, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant for breach of fiduciary duty.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT V

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti Associates -Negligence)

- 43. Paragraphs 1-42 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 44. A lawyer has a duty to act with reasonable care and to use the skill of a reasonably competent lawyer in representing a client.
- 45. The defendant failed to act reasonably in not informing the plaintiff and ensuring that the plaintiff understood the changes to the settlement agreement.
- 46. Due to the actions of the defendant, the plaintiff suffered financial loss.

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REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count V, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff. 1.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT VI

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti Associates -Breach of Contract)

- 47. Paragraphs 1-46 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract for whereby the defendant was 48. to provide legal representation for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- The defendant breached this contract by failing to provide competent legal 49. representation, failing to inform the plaintiff of changes to the plaintiff's settlement agreement, and failing to ensure that the plaintiff understood the changes to the settlement agreement.
- The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract. 50.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count VI, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff 1. against the defendant for breach of contract.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT VII

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti & Anderson LLP -Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

51. Paragraphs 1-50 are realleged and incorporated by reference.

- 52. A lawyer has a duty to act in the best interest of his client and not to act in any way adverse or contrary to the interests of the client.
- The plaintiff relied upon the defendant for advice, counsel, and information in order 53. to make an informed decision prior to entering into any settlement agreement whereby the plaintiff would forfeit his rights to future compensation for his injuries.
- Due to the defendant's breach, the plaintiff has suffered financial loss. 54.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count VII, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff 1. against the defendant for breach of fiduciary duty
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti & Anderson LLP -Negligence)

- Paragraphs 1-54 are realleged and incorporated by reference. 55.
- A lawyer has a duty to act with reasonable care and to use the skill of a reasonably 56. competent lawyer in representing a client.
- The defendant failed to act reasonably in not informing the plaintiff and ensuring that 57. the plaintiff understood the changes to the settlement agreement.
- Due to the actions of the defendant, the plaintiff suffered financial loss. 58.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count VII, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff. 1.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT IX

(Dennis Dimon v. Latti & Anderson LLP -Breach of Contract)

- Paragraphs 1-58 are realleged and incorporated by reference. 59.
- The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract for whereby the defendant was 60. to provide legal representation for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- The defendant breached this contract by failing to provide competent legal 61. representation, failing to inform the plaintiff of changes to the plaintiff's settlement agreement, and failing to ensure that the plaintiff understood the changes to the settlement agreement.
- The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract. 62.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count IX, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff 1. against the defendant for breach of contract.
- For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate. 2.

COUNT X

(Dennis Dimon v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company -Breach of Contract)

- Paragraphs 1-62 are realleged and incorporated by reference. 63.
- The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract whereby the defendant was to 64. provide a lifetime annuity guaranteed for twenty (20) years in exchange for the plaintiff releasing all claims for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- The defendant breached this contract by altering the agreement after the contract was 65.

- signed and approved by the court and for failing to perform the contract.
- 66. The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count X, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff
 against the defendant for breach of contract.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT XI

(Dennis Dimon v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company - Negligent Misrepresentation)

- 67. Paragraphs 1-66 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 68. The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract whereby the defendant was to provide a lifetime annuity guaranteed for twenty (20) years in exchange for the plaintiff releasing all claims for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- 69. The defendant negligently misrepresented the terms of the contract, stating that the contract was for life, guaranteed for 20 years.
- 70. The plaintiff relied on the representation of counsel and this defendant as manifested in the original contract approved by the court and suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's negligent misrepresentation in altering the contract.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- 1. That this Court, under Count XI, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT XII

(Dennis Dimon v. Kemper Insurance Company - Breach of Contract)

- 71. Paragraphs 1-70 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 72. The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract whereby the defendant was to provide a lifetime annuity guaranteed for twenty (20) years in exchange for the plaintiff releasing all claims for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- 73. The defendant breached this contract by altering the agreement after the contract was signed and approved by the court and for failing to perform the contract.
- 74. The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count XII, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff
 against the defendant for breach of contract.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT XIII

(Dennis Dimon v. Kemper Insurance Company -Negligent Misrepresentation)

- 75. Paragraphs 1-74 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 76. The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract whereby the defendant was to provide a lifetime annuity guaranteed for twenty (20) years in exchange for the plaintiff releasing all claims for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- 77. The defendant negligently misrepresented the terms of the contract, stating that the contract was for life, guaranteed for 20 years.
- 78. The plaintiff relied on the representation of counsel and this defendant as manifested

in the original contract approved by the court and suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's negligent misrepresentation in altering the contract.

Filed 01/02/2007

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- 1. That this Court, under Count XIII, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT XIV

(Dennis Dimon v. Morgan Stanley -Breach of Contract)

- 79. Paragraphs 1-78 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 80. The plaintiff and the defendant entered into a contract whereby the defendant was to provide a lifetime annuity guaranteed for twenty (20) years in exchange for the plaintiff releasing all claims for injuries suffered by the plaintiff in a fishing accident.
- 81. The defendant breached this contract by altering the agreement after the contract was signed and approved by the court and for failing to perform the contract.
- 82. The plaintiff suffered financial losses as a result of the defendant's breach of contract.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- 1. That this Court, under Count XIV, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant for breach of contract.
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

COUNT XV

(Dennis Dimon v. Morgan Stanley -Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

- 83. Paragraphs 1-81 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
- 84. A broker has a duty to act in the best interest of his client and not to act in any way adverse or contrary to the interests of the client.
- 85. The plaintiff relied upon the defendant for advice, counsel, and information in order to make an informed decision prior to entering into any settlement agreement whereby the plaintiff would forfeit his rights to future compensation for his injuries.
- 86. Due to the defendant's breach, the plaintiff has suffered financial loss.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

- That this Court, under Count XV, enter judgment in favor of the plaintiff
 against the defendant for breach of fiduciary duty
- 2. For such other relief as this Court deems appropriate.

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY ON ALL COUNTS.

Respectfully submitted By his attorney

DATED: <u>14AY 20, 2005</u>

David B. Kaplan, Esq.**'**THE KAPLAN/BOND GROUP

88 Black Falcon Avenue

Suite 301

Boston, MA 02210

(617) 261-0080

BBO #258540

EXHIBIT B

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

DENNIS JAY DIMON,

Plaintiff

81-0063

VS.

JENNY C., INC.,

Defendant

* * * * * * * *

PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

Now comes the plaintiff in the above-entitled action and says:

COUNT I

First: The plaintiff is a resident of Kenyon in the State of Rhode Island a seaman and, at all times hereinafter referred to, a member of the crew of the F/V JENNY C.

Second: The defendant is Jenny C., Inc. duly organized under the laws of the State of Rhode Island with a principal place of business in Pt. Judith, Narragansett within the District of Rhode Island, and, at all times hereinafter referred to, owned, operated and controlled the F/V JENNY C.

Third: On or about January 24, 1981 the plaintiff was in the employ of the defendant as a seaman on the F/V JENNY C.

Fourth: On or about January 24, 1981 while the said JENNY C was in navigable waters, and while the plaintiff was in the exercise of due care in the performance of his duties, he sustained severe and painful personal injuries

<u>Fifth</u>: The injuries sustained by the plaintiff were not caused by any fault on his part, but were caused by the fault of the defendant, its agents or servants, as follows:

- (a) Failure to use due care to provide and maintain a seaworthy vessel with safe and proper appliances.
- (b) Failure to use due care to make reasonable and periodic inspection of the said vessel, its equipment and appliances.
- (c) Failure to use due care to furnish the plaintiff with a reasonably safe place in which to perform his work.

- Failure and negligence of fellow employees.
- (e) Failure and negligence in other respects that will be shown at the trial.

As a result of the said injuries, the plaintiff has suffered great pain of body and anguish of mind, lost a great deal of time from his usual work, incurred medical and hospital expenses, and has suffered and will suffer other damages as will be shown at the trial, all in the sum of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000,00) DOLLARS.

This cause of action is brought under the Seventh: Merchant Marine Act of 1920, commonly called the Jones Act.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendant in the sum of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS together with costs and interest.

COUNT II

First: The plaintiff reitereates all the allegations set forth in paragraphs "First", "Second", "Third" and "Fourth" of Count I.

The injuries sustained by the plaintiff Second: were due to no fault of his, but were caused by the unseaworthiness of the defendant's vessel.

As a result of the said injuries, the plaintiff has suffered great pain of body and anguish of mind, lost a great deal of time from his usual work, incurred medical and hospital expenses, and has suffered and will suffer other damages as will be shown at the trial, all in the sum of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS.

This cause of action is brought under the General Maritime Law for Unseaworthiness and is for the same cause of action as Count I.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendant in the sum of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS together with costs and interest.

COUNT III

First: The plaintiff reiterates all the allegations set forth in paragraphs "First", "Second", "Third" and "Fourth" of Count I.

As a result of his injuries, the plaintiff Second: incurred expenses for his maintenance and cure and will continue to do so all to his damage in the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$200,000.00) DOLLARS

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff demands judgment against the defendant in the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$200,000.00) together with costs and interest; and, in DOLLARS addition, an award for attorney's fees incurred by the defendant's wilful and persistent failure to make prompt payment of maintenance and cure during the period of the plaintiff's disability.

The plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all the issues raised in Counts I, II and III.

By his attorneys,

Michael B. Latti Latti Associates 95 Commercial Wharf

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Tel: (617) 523-1000

Laurent L. Rousseau

Moore, Virgadamo & Lynch, Ltd.

112 Bellevue Avenue

Newport, Rhode Island 02840

EXHIBIT C

| CASE Dimon v. Tenny C. | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| DATE OF SETTLEMENT 4'19'83 | | | |
| SUBMITTED BY REH MBL | | | |
| SETTLEME | AL CHEUM | | _ |
| GROSS SETTLEMENT | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | \$ 425,000,55 | |
| LESS - Paid Bills & Expenses: | | \$ <u>425,000,00</u> 175,000.00 | Ann |
| - | | 250,000.00 | Up- |
| E. Fee | 60.00 | | İ |
| Lancer Co. (Investigation) | - | | |
| Investigo (Investigation) \$ | 958.15 | | |
| Med Recs \$ | 3,60 | | |
| Depostions | 467.60 | | |
| Roston Photo (Copies) \$ Travel Exp - R.ITrial | | | |
| Meals - Misc. Exp. \$ | 454.78 | | |
| Witness Fees - Experts \$ | 517.70 | an-remain. | |
| \$ | | | |
| <u> </u> | ı | | |
| Unpaid Bills & Expenses: | ` | | |
| Valed (Depos) \$ | 219.75 | ; | |
| 1 | 207.25 | | |
| Potter & McArthur Expert \$ | | | |
| _Bristol D. Sheriffs \$ | | <u> </u> | |
| Moore Virgadamo \$ | 400 00 | • | |
| Dr. Levin ATTORNEYS FEE (sb) 141,666.66 \$_1 | 1,000.00 | _ | |
| TOTAL BILLS & EXPENSES | | _ \$ <u>_150.000.00</u> _ | |
| BALANCE DUE TO CLIENT | | \$_100.000.00 | |
| Attorney's Fee \$ | Less | 4,679.35 | |
| Referral Fee to: | AND TACI | 95,320.65 | |
| <u> </u> | | | |

¥.,_

EXHIBIT D

EXHIBIT E

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG

Document 60-6

Filed 01/02/2007 Page 2 of 2 -418

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Annuity Administration Operations 12902 East 51st Street, PO Box 22053, Tulsa, OK 74121-2053

June 9, 2003

DENNIS DIMON PO BOX 56 WEST KINGSTON RI 02892 0056 Metlife

RE: SCIW1126

Dear Mr. Dimon,

This letter is in response to a phone call we received from Katherine Dimon. Since your annuity contract has expired, we are unable to provide you with a duplicate contract. However, the terms of your annuity are described below.

The annuity contract was issued on May 5, 1983 under the "Certain 20 Year" option. American Motorist Insurance Company was considered to be the owner of the annuity, however, you were the annuitant and payee. This contract provided you with a monthly income due on June 5th of each year payable for a total of 20 years (240 monthly payments). The payment amount increased by 3% each year.

The first payment was on June 5, 1983. The final payment was on May 5, 2003.

If you have any questions, please call our customer service center at 1-800-635-7775.

Sincerely,

Sandy Franklin

Sandy Franklin Annuity Payout Specialist III Annuity Administration Operations

EXHIBIT F

Richard

Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company • American Motorists Insurance Company

American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company • American Protection Insurance Company

Long Grove, IL 60049 · 312 540-2000

August 12, 1983

Mr. Robert A. Foley
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.
One Boston Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Mr. Foley:

DENNIS DIMON CHARTER SECURITY POLICY NO: 83 A 08153 OUR FILE NO: 399 LM 106125-Z

I received the replacement policy issued by Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York) changing the terms of the annuity from 240 months certain and life thereafter to 240 months certain only.

I am advised by Mr. Hughes of Lattie Associates that your quotation was to provide an annuity which would pay \$1,450.45 per month for the first year increasing annually at a rate of 3% compounded annually for 240 months certained life thereafter for a single premium of \$175,000. This was the benefit to be provided under the terms of a general release and settlement agreement approved by Judge Pettine of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island.

The agreed upon premium was paid and a policy issued which is now in the files of the contract owner. American Motor sts Insurance Company, providing benefits required by the release, settlement agreement and court order. I consider the original annuity contract valid and enforceable and will retain it in our files.



Mr. Robert A. Foley August 12, 1983

I intended to return the replacement contract issued by Barbara Boehm of Charter Security, but it was lost with my briefcase on August 11, 1983.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN HOTORISTS INSURANCE COMPANY

John L. Noe Mome Office Claim

JLN: bw

cc: Ms. Barbara Boehm
Vice President
Charter Security Life Insurance Company
(New York)
720 Fifth Avenue
New York C_ty, New York 10019

Mr. Roger sughes Lattie Associates, Attorneys 30-31 Union Wharf Boston, MA 02109

EXHIBIT G





Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York)
720 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 17/019
Respond 212-397-2350

September 26, 1983

Mr. John L. Noe Home Office Claim American Motorists Insurance Company Long Grove, Illinois 60049

> Re: Dennis Dimon - Policy No. 83 A 08153 Your File No. 399 LM 106125-2

Dear Mr. No::

I am in receipt of your letter to Barbara Boehm, Vice President of Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York ("CSL(NY)"), regarding the annuity policy (Policy No. 83 A 081;3) issued by CSL(NY) to Dennis Dimon.

According to information you received from Mr. Hughes of Lattie Associates, Robert Foley of Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., allegedly offered to provide Mr. Dimon with a CSL(NY) annuity which would pay \$1,450.45 per month for the first year increasing annually at a rate of 3% compounded annually for 240 months certain and life thereafter based on a single premium of \$175,000.00.

Contrary to the information you received from Mr. Hughes, there is nothing to indicate that anything other than a single premium immediate annuity with a 20 year (i.e., 240 months) certain period was applied for. As you can see from the attached copy of Mr. Dimon's application, which American Motorists Insurance Company signed as applicant, a 20 year certain polic was applied for. I have also attached for your reference, a copy of a quotation sheet from CSL(NY) to Mr. Foley which clearly shows that CSL(NY)'s quote was based on the issuance of a cert in period annuity without a life option. As previously explained by Ms. Boehm in her letter to Mr. Kurt Snyder of Dean Witter Reynolds dated July 14, 1983 (see enclosed copy), the option indicated on the Supplementary Contract originally sent to Dea. Witter Reynolds on June 17, 1993 for delivery to your office w s incorrectly typed as a 240 month certain and life thereafter annuity instead of 240 months only. Again, on behalf of CSL(N), I apologize for this oversight,

Mr. John L. Noe Page 2 September 26, 1983

Based on the foregoing, CSL(NY) guarantees to continue to pay Mr. Dimon under the terms of his policy a \$1,450.45 monthly annuity during the first policy year, which will increase annually at a rate of 3% compounded annually for 240 months certain. No payments will be made beyond the expiration of the 240 month period. Accordingly, the original Supplementary Contract mailed to Robert Foley and in your possession is null and void. I would appreciate your returning that contract to:

Barbara Boehm Vice President Policyowner Service Department Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York): 720 Pifth Avenue New York, New York 10019

By copy of this letter, I am instructing Ms. Boehm to sen! to your attention a correct copy of the Supplementary Contract for Denhis Dimon which you stated was lost with your briefcase on August 11, 1983.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Very truly yours,

Robert Liguori Counsel

RL/spf Enclosures

cc: Ms. Barbara Boehm

Mr. Robert A. Foley Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. One Boston Place Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Mr. Roger Hughes Lattie Associates, Attorneys 30-31 Union Wharf Boston, MA 02109





Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company · American Motorists Insurance Company American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company . American Protection Insurance Com yeary

long Crove, IL 60049 · 312 540-2000

October 10, 1983

Mr. Robert Lighori, Counsel Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York) 720 Fisch Avenue New York, New York 10019

D∕ar Mr. Liguori:

DENNIS DIMON CHARTER SECURITY POLICY: 83A08153 OUR FILE NO: 399 LM 106125-Z

In reply to your September 26, 1983, Sections 14 and 15 of the application that I signed were blank. The entiles now appearing were filled in after I returned the sign id application.

The original annuity policy received was for a term of 240 months certain and life thereafter as ordered and agreed upon between Mr. Hughes and Mr. Foley. Your ag mt. Mr. Foley further confirmed this to me by telephone in April, 1983. May I suggest you contact him to verify this?

I intend to retain the original policy in our files an ! consider it to be valid and enforceable.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN MOTORISTS INSURANCE COMPANY

ohn L. Noe Home Office Claim

real and the state of the

JLN:ml

cc: Mr. Robert A. Foley Dean Witter Reynolds, Foc. One Boston Place Boston, MA 02108

> Mr. Roger Hughes Latti Assoc., Attermeys 30-31 Union Wharf Boston, MA 02109

cc: Ms. Barbara Boehm Vice President Policyowner Service Dept. Charter Security Li e Insurance Co. (Re / York) 720 Fifth Avenue New York, MY 10019

000029

EXHIBIT I



CERTIFIED HAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Charter Security Life Inflatoring Company How Yorks 720 Fifth Avertain New York, New York 10019 Telephone 212-397-2350

July 14, 1983

Mr. Kurt Snyder Dean Witter Reynolds 111 E. Onondaga Street Syracuse, New York 13202

> RE: Dennis Dimon Policy #83A08153 NSC 1126

Dear Kurt:

As outlined in our telephone conversation, due to a clerical error the option indicated on the above supplementary contract for Dennis Dimon was incorrectly typed as 240 months certain and life thereafter instead of 240 months only.

Enclosed is a new contract correctly stating the option elected. Please be advised that the former contract mailed to Robert Foley is null and void. I would appreciate it if you will return that contract to my attention.

Thank you for your cooperation and again, my apologies for this oversight

Sincerely,

Barbara Boehm, Vice Presiden Policyowner Service Department

BAB:aw

Enc.

EXHIBIT J



Claster Security Was Instanton tempony (n) or Verte 720 FC'n Augus Nam Vork, Nam Vork 1004 Desplore 212-207-2250

October 14, 1983

Mr. John L. Noe Home Office Claim American Motorists Insurance Company Long Grove, IL 60049

Re: Dennis Dison

Contract Ro. 83408153

Your File No. 399LM10512 -2

Dear Mr. Noe:

As was indicated in Mr. Robert Ligouri's letter of September 26, 1983, we erenclosing a corrected Supplementary Contract in regards to Mr. Dimon's Single Premium Immediate Annuity. This contract has been updated to reflect month! payments for a period of 240 months only.

Please see that the original Supplementary Contract, which was mailed to Robert Foley. Is returned to me, as that contract is no longer valid.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this matter has caused you

Sincerely,

Barbara Boeha, Vice President Policyomer Service Department

BAB/cg

Enclosure.

EXHIBIT K



Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company • American Motorists Insurance Company

American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company • American Protection Insurance Company

Long Grave, N. 60049 + 3124540-2000

October 12, 1983

Ms. Barbara Boehm, Vice President
Policyowner Service Department
Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York)
720 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10019

Dear Ms. Bochm:

RE: DENNIS DIMON
CONTRACT NO. 83408153
OUR FILE NO. 399 LM 156125 Z

In reponse to your October 14, 1983 I reject and return herewith the Supplementary Agreement and General Provisions attached thereto. The original annuity policy will be retained in the files of American Motorists Insurance Company and considered valid and enforceable.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN MOTORISTS INSURANCE COMPANY

John L. Noe Home Office Claims

JLN/lz

cc: Mr. Roger Hughes Latti Associates, Attorneys 30-31 Union Wharf Boston, MA 02109

CC: Mr. Robert A. Foley
Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc.
One Boston Place
Boston, MA 02108

EXHIBIT L

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Page 1
1.
 2
              UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
3
           FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
4
     DENNIS DIMON,
5
                  Plaintiff.
 6
               VS.
 7
     METROPOLITAN LIFE
     INSURANCE, COMPANY,
 8
     KEMPER INSURANCE COMPANY,
     MORGAN STANLEY DW, INC.,
 9
     MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI
     ASSOCIATES, and LATTI &
10
     ANDERSON, LLP,
11
                  Defendants.
12
13
14
15
             DEPOSITION OF LEONARD SCHMITT
16
                    Purchase, New York
17
18
                  Monday, May 15, 2006
19
20
21
22
                                        COPY
23
24
     Reported by: NICOLE AMENEIROS, RPR
     JOB NO. 184350
25
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Page 19 Schmitt 7 that would tell you how long that stream of 2 payments would last? 3 There is. In box number 14 it's in Α. 4 handwriting again says immediate annuity 5 20-year certain. I believe it says 6 three percent increases, but the photocopy 7 8 and everything is a little -- a little sketchy there along with \$175,000 equals 9 1450.45 per month first, and then I cannot --10 I cannot make out what it says after that. 11 Okay. Mr. Schmitt, can you tell me 12 Ο. what your understanding of a 20-year certain 13 14 annuity is? A product that would quarantee a 15 20-year income stream. 16 And what would happen in the 21st 17 Q. 18 year? MS. McQUAY: Objection as to form. 19 You can answer, Mr. Schmitt. 20 Ο. 20-year certain all on its own 21 Α. would indicate just a 20-year payment, and 22 the 21st year, based on my understanding of 23 the products, is it would not -- it would not 24 25 make a payment in year 21.

Page 20 1 Schmitt 2 Ο. Okay. Is there anything on the 3 annuity application, Exhibit 1, that would 4 indicate to you that this would be a for-life 5 annuity? 6 Α. Nothing that I see on the 7 application. 8 Ο. And do you see that it was signed 9 by a representative from Dean Witter? 10 From what I can make out it -- on 11 my copy it has that it was signed in -- at 12 Syracuse, New York, by somebody, and I can't 13 read the first name. It looks like E. 14 Schneider in printing, and the indication is I see a code there 621-61, which I would 15 16 interpret as being the financial advisor 17 number for a Dean Witter representative. 1.8 Ο. Okay. How -- and how do you know 19 that's a financial advisor number? 20 the format? 21 It's the typical format of a Α. 22 financial advisor number for -- for Dean 23 And also I noticed in the bottom 24 right-hand side it says Dean Witter Reynolds, 25 the name of the general agency.

| | Page 21 |
|----|---|
| 1 | Schmitt |
| 2 | Q. Have you spoken with Mr. Schneider? |
| 3 | A. No, I have not. |
| 4 | Q. Do you know where Mr. Schneider is |
| 5 | located? |
| 6 | A. I have no idea. |
| 7 | Q. Do you know if Morgan Stanley has |
| 8 | made any efforts to locate Mr. Schneider? |
| 9 | A. My understanding is that Morgan |
| 10 | Stanley has made effort to find |
| 11 | Mr. Schneider. |
| 12 | Q. Do you know what the results of |
| 13 | those efforts were? |
| 14 | A. My understanding is that they have |
| 15 | not been able to locate Mr. Schneider. |
| 16 | MS. McQUAY: Just for purposes of |
| 17 | clarity of the record and point of fact, |
| 18 | Peter, in our initial disclosure we |
| 19 | recently gave you what we understand to |
| 20 | be Mr. Schneider's last known address. |
| 21 | MR. LeBLANC: Your initial |
| 22 | disclosure, Sue? |
| 23 | MS. McQUAY: In the supplemental |
| 24 | disclosure that we subsequently filed. |
| 25 | MR. LeBLANC: Okay. |

Page 27 Schmitt 1 They -- they -- whatever records 2 Α. existed were retained within the department. 3 There was no change pre impulse merger. 4 Okay. And where -- where was the 5 Q. 6 department? It was in the second World Trade 7 Α. Center on the 74th floor. 8 And is that where those records 9 Ο. were stored? 10 11 Α. Yes. What happened to those records? 12 0. They were destroyed on 13 Α. September 11th. 14 Do you know if any records survived 15 Ο. September 11th? 16 No paper documents for the 17 Α. 18 department survived. Any computer records? 19 0. Various computer records were --20 Α. were -- did survive, certain e-mails, things 21 22 like that. Any e-mails related to this annuity 23 for this case? 24 25 Not that I'm aware of. Α.

| | Page 82 |
|----|---|
| 1 | Schmitt |
| 2 | MS. McQUAY: Tim? |
| 3 | MR. O'DRISCOLL: This is Tim |
| 4 | O'Driscoll. I have no questions. |
| 5 | MS. McQUAY: Are we done? |
| 6 | MR. DEWICK: This is Jed Dewick. I |
| 7 | have nothing further. |
| 8 | MR. KEANE: This is Brian Keane. I |
| 9 | have nothing further. |
| 10 | MR. LeBLANC: This is Peter |
| 11 | LeBlanc. We can suspend this deposition |
| 12 | without concluding at this time. |
| 13 | MS. McQUAY: Well, I understand |
| 14 | that's your position, and just for the |
| 15 | record, I will I have a contrary |
| 16 | position, but we can save that for |
| 17 | another day if necessary. |
| 18 | MR. LeBLANC: Thank you. |
| 19 | MS. McQUAY: Okay. Signing off. |
| 20 | ALL PARTIES: Thank you. |
| 21 | MS. McQUAY: Bye-bye. |
| 22 | (Time noted: 1:01 p.m.) |
| 23 | |
| 24 | LEONARD SCHMITT |
| 25 | |
| | |

| | | Page 83 |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Schmitt | |
| 2 | Subscribed and sworn to before me | |
| 3 | this day of, 2006. | |
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| 2 | |
| 3 | CERTIFICATE |
| 4 | STATE OF NEW YORK) |
| 5 | : SS. |
| 6 | COUNTY OF BRONX) |
| 7 | |
| 8 | I, NICOLE AMENEIROS, a Notary |
| 9 | Public within and for the State of New |
| 10 | York, do hereby certify: |
| 11 | That LEONARD SCHMITT, the witness |
| 12 | whose deposition is hereinbefore set |
| 13 | forth, was duly sworn by me and that |
| 14 | such deposition is a true record of the |
| 15 | testimony given by the witness. |
| 16 | I further certify that I am not |
| 1.7 | related to any of the parties to this |
| 18 | action by blood or marriage, and that I |
| 19 | am in no way interested in the outcome |
| 20 | of this matter. |
| 21 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto |
| 22 | set my hand this 15th day of May, 2006. |
| 23 | |
| 24 | Nicole Ameneiros |
| 25 | NICOLE AMENEIROS |

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-14 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 9

EXHIBIT M

1

VOLUME: I

PAGES: 1 through 172 EXHIBITS: See Index

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Civil Action No. 05-11073 WGY

Plaintiff,

VS.

ORIGINAL

DEPOSITION OF DENNIS J. DIMON, a witness called on behalf of the Defendant, taken pursuant to the Provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Julie A. Healey, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the offices of Ciapciak & Associates, P.C., 99 Access Road, Norwood, Massachusetts, on June 29, 2006, commencing at 11:25 a.m.

COPLEY COURT REPORTING 101 Tremont Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

A. Hmm mmm.

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- Q. Was anyone else there at the meeting?
- A. Um, I'm not sure at that time. I know, I know when things went down in the courtroom and stuff like that, that we had, we left the courthouse, and we went to another building, and there was quite a few people there, but I'm not sure exactly what was, was said all the way around.

You know, it's so long ago, it's hard to remember exactly what was going on at that time.

- Q. Okay, and I'm not sure I'm going to phrase this correctly, but you just said we were in the courtroom and either when it was going down or when it went down, what did you mean by that?
- A. Well, at the end of the first trial and then we went to another one because when they appointed a guardian to me, I wasn't quite sure on exactly, the judge asked me how much money that we were going to receive and stuff like that, and because I wasn't sure of the total amount of what we were receiving, and then that's when the judge turned around and assigned the guardian to me to go over everything and make sure I understood

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| n | ie | a | Π | to | you? |

- The plan, the policy or whatever. Α.
- Okay, and what did this plan or policy give you, what benefit?
 - Um, the money I guess.
- So, your understanding from the plan or policy or the term annuity is that it would provide you with some amount of money?
 - Α. Right.
- Okay. The next line here says "American Ο. Motorist Insurance Company was considered to be the owner of the annuity, however, you were the annuitant and payee."

Do you have any specific understanding of what that means, what that sentence means?

- Well, they were the people that was Α. paying me, American Motors. I'm the payee, right, and they're the payee.
- Who did you understand American Motorist Ο. Insurance Company to be, how did they become involved?
- They were the first policyholders that Α. handled, you know, the annuity policy.
 - Okay. Were they an insurance company 0.

that was involved in the Jenny C. matter?

A. Not to my, you know, I'm not sure on any of that part what was going on there because Mr. Latti set this all up through, you know, I guess through whatever he had powers to do, you know.

I'm not sure on how this came about myself.

- Q. When you say Mr. Latti set this all up, are you referring to the settlement in the Jenny C.?
 - A. Right.

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- Q. Okay, and when you refer to Mr. Latti, are you referring to him as an individual or him as the firm?
- A. Well, I'm referring to him himself, you know. Otherwise, I'd say Latti & Associates, you know.
- Q. Okay, and I'll skip down to the third paragraph, it says "The first payment was on June 5, 1983." Do you recall getting a payment way back then?
 - A. I remember getting a check, yes.
 - Q. The final payment was on May 5th, 2003.

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| 1 | reading them all, I'm not sure. |
| 2 | Q. Okay, and did anyone read those documents |
| 3 | to you? |
| 4 | A. Not that I can recollect. |
| 5 | Q. Okay, but the representative did say your |
| 6 | mother said it was okay to sign? |
| 7 | A. Right. |
| 8 | Q. And the representative from Latti & |
| 9 | Associates who came to the hospital, that wasn't |
| 10 | Mr. Latti himself? |
| 11 | A. Um, no, not, not that I know of. I can't |
| 12 | even remember his name. |
| 13 | Q. Okay. |
| 14 | A. They had me on so many painkillers, I |
| 15 | didn't know if I was coming or going. |
| 16 | MR. LeBLANC: Can you mark that as |
| 17 | Exhibit 2, please. |
| 18 | (Exhibit No. 2, Annuity Application, |
| 19 | marked for identification.) |
| 20 | MR. LeBLANC: For the record, I've |
| 21 | asked that Exhibit 2 be marked, it's entitled |
| 22 | "Annuity Application, Charter Security Life |
| 23 | Insurance Company, New York." |
| 24 | |

I, Dennis J. Dimon, having read the foregoing transcript of my testimony, do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury the same contains a true and accurate record of my answers to the questions herein set forth, together with correction pages, if any, attached. DENNIS J. DIMON

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CERTIFICATE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS SUFFOLK, SS.

R

I, Julie A. Healey, Certified Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify:

That DENNIS J. DIMON, the witness whose testimony is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me and that such testimony is a true and accurate record of my stenotype notes taken in the foregoing matter, to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Notarial Seal this 6th day of July, 2006.

Jalie A. Healey

CSR RPR Notary Public

My Commission Expires: March 26, 2010

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-15 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 27

EXHIBIT N

VOLUME: I

PAGES: 1 through 123 EXHIBITS: See Index

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Civil Action No. 05-11073 WGY

Plaintiff,

VS.

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE)
COMPANY, KEMPER INSURANCE)
COMPANY, MORGAN STANLEY DW)
INC., MICHAEL B. LATTI,)
LATTI ASSOCIATES, and)
LATTI & ANDERSON LLP,)
Defendants.)

ORIGINAL

DEPOSITION OF MICHAEL B. LATTI, a witness called on behalf of the Defendant, taken pursuant to the Provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Julie A. Healey, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the offices of Ciapciak & Associates, P.C., 99 Access Road, Norwood, Massachusetts, on July 25, 2006, commencing at 11:08 a.m.

COPLEY COURT REPORTING 101 Tremont Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

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Okay. Can you tell us how long you've been in the practice of law?

MR. DeWICK: Objection.

BY MR. LeBLANC:

- I was actively practicing from 1960 until '99 when I became of counsel with the firm of Latti Associates. It later became Latti & Anderson, and I, today, I'm of counsel, but I'm not actively practicing.
- Okay, and in 1999 when you became of Ο. counsel, who were the partners at Latti & Associates at that time?
- Α. David Anderson, Carolyn Latti, and myself.
- Okay, and what's Carolyn Latti's Ο. relationship to you?
 - Α. It's my daughter.
 - Ο. And Mr. Anderson?
 - Son-in-law. Α.
- Okay. What was the corporate form, the Q. business form of Latti & Associates in 1983?
- It was probably, '83, it was Michael B. Α. Latti and Roger E. Hughes doing business as Latti

Associates, most of '83.

- Q. Okay. When you say doing business as, was it a partnership?
- A. It was a partnership, Roger Hughes became a partner in March of '83, but the agreement was predated to January 1st, '82, so, he actually became a partner in '82, January 1st, '82.
- Q. Were there any other partners at that time?
 - A. No.

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- Q. Any associates?
- A. There was about eight or nine associates that worked for the firm.
- Q. Okay, and what was the agreement between the firm and the associates at that time?
 - A. I don't understand your question.
- Q. Did you have agreements with the associates about their employment with Latti & Associates?
- A. They were employees, there wasn't a written contract, they were employed day-to-day I guess or year to year.
- Q. Okay. Did Latti & Associates provide those employees benefits?

after a certain formula was applied, what other responsibilities or duties or authority did he have?

- A. That's difficult, very broad to answer.

 He was just a practicing attorney, tried and settled cases, and I don't know what you're driving at here for the question. It's too broad.
- Q. Did he make hiring and firing decisions at the firm?
 - A. No.

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- Q. Did he make decisions about what cases you would bring into the firm?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. On his own or in consult with you?
- A. No, he would, he would talk to me, and we would decide what to take and which cases to prosecute and that type of thing, yeah, oh, yeah.
- Q. Did he have authority to overrule your decisions about what cases to take if he felt strongly about a case?
- A. We weren't that way, we were very close,
 Joe Flannery and myself. We also worked out an
 understanding where it was unanimous, either he or
 me or I would listen to him and he would listen to

prior.

- Q. Okay. During the time that you were a partner with Roger Hughes, did you have any other partners during that period of time?
 - A. I don't think so.
- Q. Okay, and Mr. Hughes' partnership interest was 15 percent?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Was your partnership interest 85 percent?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay, and in terms of decision making authority at the firm Latti Associates when Mr. Hughes was a partner, who had the decision making authority at that time?
 - A. Both of us.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. In fact, Roger Hughes had a great deal of authority in decision making, and he made it on his own because I had back surgery in December of '82 at the Mass. General Hospital, I had two discs removed, and I was out of the office from, I would say November the 7th or 8th until February, and even in February I only came in maybe two or three times for either settling up a case or when I had

to.

I was on trial when I collapsed in the courtroom and went to the Mass. General. I remember coming in for that, and I don't remember sitting, I was only allowed to stand, stand or lie down, and I couldn't sit until probably May or June of that year.

So, I was not in the office a great deal at the time, and Roger Hughes was very involved in the decision making because he was my partner and at that time very close.

- Q. And when you say at that time, you mean that 1982, '83 period?
- A. I mean from November until I got on my feet, basically it was May or June. I used to take depositions lying down in our conference room.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. During that period of time of April and May, I remember numerous cases. I was excused from participating in trials in the Federal Court for months, I think six or eight months.
- Q. And when you say at that time, that's the time period you're referring to?

INC.

- A. I'm referring from May, November of '82 until at least when I got on my feet in September of '83.
- Q. And during that period of time or during the period of time where Mr. Hughes was a partner, did he have the authority to hire and fire employees?
- A. He had the, subject to my consent or approval, but he could bring up an employee and hire them or fire them. He was in complete, I wasn't even there at the office. I was flat on my back in bed for months.
- Q. Likewise, bringing cases into the firm, did Mr. Hughes need your consent or approval to bring cases into the firm?
- A. He didn't need my approval, he just brings them into the firm. He knows that's the rule, that every case comes into the firm and is processed by the firm.

He doesn't need my approval or my sanction or anything. He makes his own decision, what cases to bring in. If the case was not meritorious and I knew it, I would say something to him, "We're not going to take that case," and

| Q. | O١ | ay. | Befo | ore | λo | u sav | v those | docur | nent | S |
|-----------|----|------|------|-----|----|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
| yesterday | Ι, | have | you | see | en | them | before, | any | of | them? |

- A. I have seen them before, some of them, probably not all of them. They were sent to me when my deposition was noticed originally in May by Jed, and I saw some of them but not all of them.
- Q. Okay. So, prior to May, did you see any of those documents, recollect seeing any of those documents?
- A. Not that I -- rephrase your question or ask it in another way.

MR. LeBLANC: Or we can have the court reporter read it back to you.

(Last question read back by the court reporter.)

BY MR. LeBLANC:

- A. Not the ones that he sent, that was the first time I saw those documents. I might have, I don't -- no, the answer is no, that's the first time in May that I saw those documents that I remember.
- Q. Okay. Do you remember Latti & Associates having a client named Dennis Dimon?

probably two.

- Q. Can you tell us what happened at those meetings?
- A. The first meeting with Dennis Dimon that I remember was after the verdict that Joe Flannery got, I don't remember the amount, but it was a good verdict, and I met with Dimon, Dennis Dimon I would say sometime in the beginning of April as I remember it of '83.

He was undecided at that time whether to go with Joseph Flannery, Joseph Flannery had left, or to stay with Latti Associates and continue the case with Latti Associates. It was being appealed, I do remember that, by the boat owner, meaning the insurance company involved.

I convinced him to stay with Latti
Associates and he did stay with Latti Associates.

I remember, that's all I remember of that meting.

I met with Dimon I'd say a couple weeks after, and
I explained to him the settlement that, I believed
Rogers Hughes gave me the particulars of the
settlement. I do not remember settling the Dimon
case.

I recommended the settlement to Dimon, I

each question, the answer to the question that the whole deposition was other accurate or inaccurate. There were parts that weren't.

- Q. What parts were inaccurate then?
- A. I don't remember what parts were inaccurate then.
- Q. We'll come back to that. In terms of which attorney at Latti Associates handled Mr. Dimon's case, who was primarily responsible for that case?
 - A. That's difficult to say. At what time?
 - Q. In 1983.
- A. In '83, the case probably was tried according to the records by Joseph Flannery and I do have a memory that he tried the case. The case was, and I think Roger Hughes had some input into the case.

Again, I was not present during that time that it was tried in the office. It was tried in February of '83, and after Joseph Flannery got the verdict, the case was assigned completely to Roger Hughes and he was responsible for the case.

Q. And at that point he was a partner at Latti Associates?

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Α.

I don't know whether it was '83.

moved from 95 Commercial Wharf I believe in '82, and we had a problem with the mail. We put in cards of transfer of address with the post office. We failed to get certain notification of hearings and trials in the Federal Court.

We showed that we never got at the time the notification. We had a means of docketing the mail and what was received, and that was vacant, so, we never got certain hearings and trial dates, and we never appeared and we were defaulted.

By showing that, that we never got notice, they were removed, the defaults, and restored. That was during '82, and I don't remember if it was also '83.

- Q. And was the reason you didn't get notice that they mailed it to your old address instead of your current address?
- A. It came back to the center. I do not remember whether they were addressed to 30-31 that we received it or it was addressed to 95 Commercial Wharf, I don't remember.

We showed we never got mail in the Federal Court and because, I'm not sure, I don't remember and I remember we tried to clear it up

and it still occurred and it had stopped in '82 or stopped in '83.

- Q. And in answering that question, you referred to docketing the mail?
- A. We had a system that the mail was docketed.
 - O. And what does that mean?

- A. Every piece of mail we get, we have a different, we had a book that showed that we received such and such, that we received a letter or something like that.
- Q. Okay, and that was every piece of mail that came into the firm?
- A. Not every piece of mail, most of the mail.
 - Q. Okay. What mail was docketed?
- A. I think court appearances and that type of thing was docketed on to a diary, into a book of trials, of hearings, and things like that that we had, and there was a check mark put on the piece of mail so the lawyer would know that it was docketed, and he would not only, so, we, when the mail came in, we had docketed certain things like hearings and things like that and the lawyer

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| 1 | that. He was an excellent trial lawyer. |
| 2 | Q. Okay. |
| 3 | MR. LeBLANC: Can we take a quick |
| 4 | break? |
| 5 | MR. DeWICK: Yes. |
| 6 | (A short break was taken.) |
| 7 | BY MR. LeBLANC: |
| 8 | Q. Mr. Latti, do you remember who were the |
| 9 | parties involved in the <u>Dimon vs. Jenny C.</u> case? |
| 10 | A. I don't understand your question. |
| 11 | Q. Do you remember who the parties in the |
| 12 | Dimon vs. Jenny C. case were? |
| 13 | A. I don't know what you mean by parties. |
| 14 | Q. Well, what would you define a party as to |
| 15 | a case? |
| 16 | A. A party to a case, the people that were |
| 17 | involved in the case. |
| 18 | Q. Okay. Who was involved in the <u>Dimon vs.</u> |
| 19 | <u>Jenny C.</u> case? |
| 20 | A. Dennis Dimon and the boat, I don't |
| 21 | remember the boat's name. |
| 22 | Q. Okay. |
| 23 | A. It was the corporation probably. |
| 24 | Q. Do you recall if any other person was |
| | |

43 1 involved or entity was involved in that case? 2 As a plaintiff sued the boat owner, which Α. was the corporation, that's to me who was involved 3 4 in the case. Do you know if Charter Security was a 5 0. 6 party to --7 Α. No. Let me finish the question, please. 8 Ο. you know if Charter Security was a party in the 9 Dimon vs. Jenny C. case? 10 11 Α. Charter Security was not. They were not a party? 12 Ο. 13 Were not a party. Α. Do you know if Kemper Insurance Company 14 0. 15 was a party? They were not a party. 16 Α. MR. LeBLANC: For the record, I'm 17 going to hand everyone a copy of what was marked 18 as Exhibit 25 to Mr. Hughes' deposition. Can you 19 mark that document as Exhibit 1, please. 20 (Exhibit No. 1, Settlement Sheet, 21 marked for identification.) 22 23 BY MR. LeBLANC: For the record, Mr. Latti, I'm going to 24

44 1 hand you a document that we've marked as Exhibit 1 2 titled "Settlement sheet," and the case identified 3 on the settlement sheet is Dimon vs. Jenny C. Corporation and a settlement date of 4/19/1983. 4 Can you look at that document, Mr. Latti? 5 6 Α. Okay, I've looked at it. 7 Do you know what that document is? Ο. It's a settlement sheet from, it looks 8 Α. like from our office. 9 Okay, and when you say our office, you 1.0 mean Latti Associates? 11 Latti Associates. 12 Α. 13 Okay, and what was the purpose of this document? 14 To determine out of a settlement what the 15 client gets net, what he gets clear, and to be 16 17 given to the client at the time if he requests it. 18 Ο. Is there any other purpose for creating a document like this? 19 It's standard procedure that we use a 20 settlement sheet for each case that was disposed 21 22 of, either a trial or settlement. Do you see the third line from the top 23 where it says "Submitted by BEH/MBL"? 24

exactly what was going on and stuff like that as far as how much I was getting, and you know, you know, and stuff like that, what my intentions were and stuff like that.

- Q. Okay. At that hearing where the judge appointed the guardian, do you recall that hearing, what happened there?
- A. Certain parts of it, yeah.
- Q. Okay. Do you recall who was there representing you at that hearing?
- A. Latti & Associates was one of the people, I'm not sure, I don't remember who it was.
 - Q. Did you ever meet Mr. Latti?
- A. Himself, yeah.
 - Q. Okay. Did he handle your trial?
- A. Not himself, no.
- Q. But someone from his office did?
- A. Right.

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- Q. Okay.
- A. There was two of them, two people actually from his office.
- Q. And at the hearing where the judge appointed the guardian, you were represented by counsel from Mr. Latti's office or Latti &

Associates?

- A. Right.
- Q. And would it be fair to say that -- strike that.

Was it your understanding based on what happened at that meeting that the judge had concerns about your ability to understand the settlement?

- A. Right, or the amount that we were getting, right.
- Q. And do you recall what words the judge used to tell you that he had that concern?
- A. That's about the way he put it to me, he says, he was kind of a funny guy actually, "You're not sure on exactly how much you're getting?" and then he turned to the lawyers, and he says, "Well," he says, "This is as far as this is going to go," he says, "We've got to find somebody to make sure exactly what Mr. Dimon knows what's going on," you know, and that was more or less the end of it from there.

He didn't let me testify, you know, let me say anything more after that.

Q. Okay, and before he made that statement,

q

sense, and the issues were laid out by the papers and what occurred.

The issues are very narrow, so, time in Dimon does not hurt this case or his causes of actions against the different parties, and I stress that he cannot bring a lawsuit against until twenty years when he was hurt when they stopped payment because if he brought a suit before twenty years, there was the defense of anticipatory breach, and that is a good defense, and it is binding on Dimon as well as anyone.

- Q. Wouldn't it be the case that twenty years ago you would still have a file on the <u>Dimon vs.</u>

 Jenny C. case?
 - A. I don't understand your question.
- Q. In 1983, you would still have a complete file on the <u>Dimon vs. Jenny C.</u> case at Latti Associates?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And wouldn't you also expect that in 1983, Kemper Insurance Company would have a complete file on an annuity that was less than a year old at the time?

MR. GOLDEN: Objection.

74 1 MR. DeWICK: Objection. 2 BY MR. LeBLANC: 3 Would I expect, I don't know, I don't Α. 4 know their practice or procedure at all, so, I 5 can't answer that. 6 Okay. Would you be surprised if they 7 didn't have a complete file? 8 Α. I don't know. 9 MR. GOLDEN: Objection. BY MR. LeBLANC: 10 11 I don't know. Α. 12 And in your own experience over forty Ο. 13 years of file keeping as an attorney, would you be 14 surprised if a complete file was not kept by a 15 party or a person involved in a case after just 16 months after the case was over? 17 Α. I would be surprised, yeah. 18 Okay, and in fact, in your case, in the 0. 19 Dimon vs. Jenny C., can you tell us when that file 20 was destroyed? 21 MR. DeWICK: Objection. 22 BY MR. LeBLANC: 23 I can't tell you when that file was Α. 24 destroyed, but we have a practice of keeping them

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for tax purposes for about six or eight years before a file is destroyed.

- Q. Okay. So, you don't have any reason to believe that the <u>Dimon vs. Jenny C.</u> file was destroyed any time before 1988, '89?
- A. I don't know, I don't know that. Of course I'm telling you our practice. It could have been destroyed before because of computers coming into being, and we were completely computerized, and we destroyed files earlier than six years.

We put them on disks, some of them, it got out of control, the class actions and the multi districts with files galore at warehouse storage, and some of them were destroyed and some of them were put on disk. I don't know.

- Q. Okay. I'm sorry, go ahead.
- A. Yeah, that's it, I don't know.
- Q. In terms of the disks, that, the files that were put on disks, did you cause a search to be made of those disks for files related to the Dimon vs. Jenny C. case?
 - A. Yes.

Q. Okay, and what was the result of that

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76 1 search? 2 Α. Zero. 3 Okay, and in terms of the files that are Q. 4 retained in a warehouse by Latti Associates or 5 Latti & Anderson, did you cause a search to be made of those files? 6 7 Yes. Α. 8 Ο. And what was the result of that search? G) Α. Nothing. 10 Okay. Other than the documents that you Ο. 11 have disclosed or produced by, through your attorney, do you know of any other documents that 12 exist related to the Dimon vs. Jenny C. case? 13 Α. No. 14 15 Any other documents related to Dennis Q. 16 Dimon in any way? 17 Α. No. MR. LeBLANC: Can you mark that as 18 19 Exhibit 4, please. 20 (Exhibit No. 4, Annuity Application, marked for identification.) 21 22 MR. LeBLANC: Why don't we go off record, we're going to take a guick break. 23 (A short break was taken.) 24

I, Michael B. Latti, having read the foregoing transcript of my testimony, do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury the same contains a true and accurate record of my answers to the questions herein set forth, together with correction pages, if any, attached. MICHAEL B. LATTI

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I, Julie A. Healey, Certified Shorthand Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify:

That MICHAEL B. LATTI, the witness whose testimony is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me and that such testimony is a true and accurate record of my stenotype notes taken in the foregoing matter, to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Notarial Seal this 8th day of August, 2006.

RPR Notaby Public

My Commission Expires: March 26, 2010

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-16 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 8

EXHIBIT 0

Exhibits: 22 - 25 Volume 1, Pages 1 - 84

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Civil Action No. 05-11073-REK

DENNIS DIMON

Plaintiff

VS.

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, et al.

Defendants (Complete caption on next page.)

DEPOSITION OF ROGER E. HUGHES, JR. Wednesday, May 10, 2006, 2:01 p.m. Sullivan, Weinstein & McQuay, P.C.

2 Park Plaza, Suite 610

Boston, Massachusetts

darsenault@fabreporters.com www.fabreporters.com
Farmer Arsenault Brock LLC
50 Congress Street, Suite 415, Boston, Mass. 02109
617.728.4404 fax 617.728.4403

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

6 Q. What is your occupation? 1 A. I'm a lawyer. 2 Q. By whom are you currently employed? 3 4 Q. You are self-employed. Does your law 5 practice have a name? 6 A. Hughes & Associates. 7 Q. What is your business address? 8 A. 46 Accord Park Drive, Norwell, Mass. 02061. 9 Q. How long have you been self-employed? 10 A. Since I would guess 1984, '82. 11 Q. Could you describe your educational 12 background? 13 A. I went to Princeton University. I 14 graduated in 1968. I went to Boston College Law School from '69 through '71, graduating in '71. 16 17 That's it. Q. Are you admitted to practice law in the 18 State of Massachusetts? 19 20 Q. When were you admitted to the bar, 21 approximately? 22 23 A. 1971. Q. After graduating from law school in 1971,

8 testified a little while ago that you have been 1 self-employed since 1982? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. And yet if I also understood you, you were 4 working for Kaplan Latti & Flannery and successor firms until September 1984? 6 A. Correct. 7 Q. Can you explain, please? 8 A. In 1982 I became a partner. The firm at 9 that point was called Latti & Associates. 10 Q. So Kaplan Latti & Flannery became Latti & 11 Associates? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Do you recall approximately when the firm's 14 name changed to Latti & Associates? 15 A. Approximately late 1978. It could have 16 17 been late 1977. Q. When you left in September of 1984, was it 18 still known as Latti & Associates? 19 20 Q. So approximately 1977 or '78 until the time 21 you left in September of 1984, you were working 22 first as an associate and then as a partner in Latti 23 & Associates? 24

did you begin practicing law? A. I did. 2

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Q. Could you describe to us your employment 3 history as a lawyer following your graduation. A. Once I was sworn in in Massachusetts, I

entered the U.S. Navy. I was a Navy JAG officer for 6 almost four years. When I was discharged from the 7 Navy, I started with Parker Coulter Daley & White, I 8 believe it was May 1975. I was there until February 10 of 1977. At that time I joined the firm of Kaplan 11 Latti & Flannery. I was with that firm and 12 successive firms until September of 1984, I believe. 13 In 1984 in September to approximately May of '85 I was a partner in a firm Halstrom & Hughes, which was 14 at 132 Boylston Street, two or three doors down from 16 here.

Then I opened a practice with an 17 associate, Brian Shontz. The name of that firm was Hughes & Shontz. Our initial office was in 19 Braintree. Then in approximately 1989 and '90 we 20 opened an office in Norwell at 17 Accord Park Drive. In 1995, I believe, I opened my present practice. I 22 have been at 46 Accord Park Drive since '95 or '96. 23 Q. If I understood you correctly, you 24

A. Correct. 1 Q. Focusing in particular on the time that you 2 spent at Latti & Associates, what was the nature of your practice? A. We were trial lawyers. 5

Q. And prior to joining Latti & Associates, had you also practiced as a trial lawyer?

A. I have.

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Q. What's the nature of your practice today?

A. I'm a real estate lawyer.

Q. A radical change. When did you switch from being a trail lawyer to a real estate lawyer?

A. It was a gradual change starting 13 approximately 15 years ago. In my practice probably 14 the last five to seven years has been almost exclusively real estate and office work. 16

Q. As a trial lawyer during your years at 17 Latti & Associates, what kind of cases did you handle, generally? 19

A. All kinds of cases, admiralty cases, motor 20 vehicle cases, product liability cases, I may have 21 done some contract cases. I really can't recall. 22 For the most part it was tort work. 23

Q. And did you represent mostly plaintiffs?

6 (Pages 18 to 21)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

| | VOTUME 1 Th | <u> </u> | , = |
|-------|--|----------|---|
| | 18 | | 20 |
| 1 | Exhibit 22, as you may have gathered is the | 1 1 | what you see in the documents? |
| 2 | settlement sheet. | 2 | A. None. |
| 3 | MR. O'DRISCOLL: Okay, thank you. | 3 | Q. So all you know is what you see in the |
| 4 | A. This is a copy of the transcript of the | 4 | documents. You have no independent recollection; is |
| 5 | hearing before Judge Pettine. | 5 | that correct? |
| 6 | Q. And Exhibit 23 is the hearing transcript | 6 | A. I have no independent recollection. |
| 7 | that you indicated Mr. Kaplan gave to you earlier? | 7 | Q. In Mr. Decof's testimony in this hearing to |
| 8 | A. I haven't gone through it page by page but | 8 | Judge Pettine, he testified that he had, I'm reading |
| 9 | I assume it is the same. | 9 | now and I'm quoting from the transcript hearing, |
| 10 | Q. If you would like to review it, by all | 10 | Mr. Decof's testimony: "I questioned Mr. Hughes |
| 11 | means. | 11 | carefully about the present value of this structured |
| 12 | A. I don't know what it is that he sent me. | 12 | portion of the settlement because there are many |
| 13 | The only way I could guarantee it is the same is to | 13 | different present values." He goes on to say: "I |
| 14 | go through it page by page. I'm trusting you that | 14 | know from my experience that different discount |
| 15 | this is the same copy. | 15 | rates can be used and different companies will give |
| 16 | Q. Let me put it this way. I will represent | 16 | different amounts for the same amount of money. |
| 17 | to you that it is the same copy that Mr. Kaplan | 17 | Mr. Hughes had told me that when the settlement was |
| 18 | provided to me. | 18 | originally offered I think he acted with care and |
| 19 | A. Then it is the one that I have. | 19 | expert, by the way in this matter, or his office |
| 20 | Q. All right. Now, reviewing the hearing | 20 | did when the settlement was originally offered, |
| 21 | transcript, Exhibit 23, refreshed your memory that | 21 | the structured settlement, Mr. Hughes asked the |
| 22 | you were present at the hearing before Judge | 22 | defendants what it was costing them to pay for this |
| 23 | Pettine; is that correct? | 23 | structured settlement and they told him \$175,000." |
| 24 | A. I can picture in my mind being in a | 24 | Does that refresh your memory at all |
| | | | |
| | 19 | | 21 |
| 1 | courtroom with Leonard Decof on the stand, and I was | 1 | about conversations that you had with Mr. Decof? |
| 2 | there representing, quote, "the plaintiff." I | 2 | A. No. |
| 3 | couldn't picture Dennis Dimon in my mind at this | 3 | Q. If you were present in the courtroom with |
| 4 | point in time. If he walked into the room today, I | 4 | Mr. Decof when he was giving this testimony and he |
| 5 | wouldn't know. | 5 | testified erroneously, would you expect that you |
| 6 | Q. So if Mr. Dimon was the plaintiff in this | 6 | would have corrected him? |
| 7 | case and was the subject of this hearing before | 7 | A. Well, I expect that he was telling the |
| 8 | Judge Pettine, you were there representing him, | 8 | truth. |
| 9 | correct? | 9 | Q. He goes on to testify, quoting now, |
| 10 | | 10 | "He," referring to you, "then asked that they allow |
| 11 | Q. And you have no reason to disagree with | 11 | him the \$175,000 and his office would purchase an |
| 12 | | 12 | annuity policy for the plaintiff on the market at |
| 13 | | 13 | the best rate that they could get it. And I checked |
| 14 | | 14 | out the annuity policy and found that this is a very |
| 15 | | 15 | solid and good return for \$175,000 with reference to |
| 16 | | 16 | the stature of the company that's involved. I did |
| 17 | | 17 | find out, and I instructed the plaintiff that it was |
| 18 | A. Yes. I saw that first from the settlement | 18 | possible to get a little bit higher payments for the |
| 19 | | 19 | same \$175,000, as a matter of fact. Rather than the |
| 20 | Q. And then you saw that referenced also in | 20 | 1450.45 per month for the first year, they could |
| 21 | the hearing transcript? | 21 | possibly get payments of up to as high as 1550 a |
| 22 | | 22 | month," and then he goes on. |
| 23 | Q. And do you have any memory at all now of | 23 | When Mr. Decof testified that you had |
| 1 ~ 4 | the terms of the cottlement in this case other than | 1 24 | asked the defendants what it was going to cost them |

24 the terms of the settlement in this case, other than $\begin{vmatrix} 24 \end{vmatrix}$ asked the defendants what it was going to cost them

10 (Pages 34 to 37)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

34 36 1 A. I'm not sure, because I'm not sure whether Not everything was given to the individual 2 this case was settled before I appeared at the 2 attorneys. 3 settlement conference. At that time in 1983 Joe 3 Q. Are you telling us that every piece of mail Flannery and an associate David Ansel left the firm. that came in was reviewed by Mr. Latti before it was 5 I can tell you from looking at the docket entries 5 given to the addressee? that Mr. Flannery in the docket entries has a 6 A. My memory is that he would quickly scan 7 7 telephone number which is different from the everything. It doesn't mean he would review telephone number for Latti & Associates. I don't interrogatories or depositions. But Mr. Latti was 9 know, but it may be that the case was settled by Mr. 9 in control. 10 10 Q. Did you have experiences with Mr. Latti 11 Q. When did Mr. Flannery leave Latti & 11 where he did not give you correspondence that was 12 Associates? addressed to you? 12 13 A. Roughly March, April 1983. 13 A. How would I know? 14 Q. So you think it is possible, you're not 14 Q. So you don't know one way or the other? 15 sure, but you think it is possible that Mr. Flannery 15 A. I don't know. tried and settled this case and you sort of picked 16 Q. When you say he didn't give everything to 17 up the pieces as it were? 17 individual attorneys, on what do you base that? 18 A. I think that's possible, yeah. 18 A. Because I knew with respect to settlements 19 Q. Do you know where Mr. Flannery is now? 19 of cases, not everything would go to the attorney. 20 20 We would do the legwork and paperwork and settle the 21 Q. Let me now show you what has been marked as 21 case. From that moment on it became an Exhibit 5 in this case. Take a moment to review 22 administrative matter and it was no longer that, if you need to, and tell me if you've seen 23 information that was provided to the individual 24 that before today. 24 attorneys. 37 35 1 A. This is a copy of the letter that I 1 Q. Now, you were a partner in this firm at the 2 received from Mr. Kaplan. 2 time? 3 Q. Now, you are shown as having also been sent 3 A. Yes. ma'am. 4 a copy of this letter back at the time, back in 4 Q. Notwithstanding that, Mr. Latti would not 5 1983, are you not? 5 necessarily give you every mail that was addressed 6 6 A. Yes. 7 7 Q. Did you receive a copy back then? A. There are partners and there are partners. 8 A. I don't remember seeing it. 8 Q. Would you explain that, please, just for Q. Do you know whether or not you did or you 9 the record? just don't remember? A. I was a partner but a very minor partner. 10 10 A. I don't believe I saw it. 11 And therefore I was not given the opportunity to see 11 12 Q. Why do you believe you did not? all of the information that came into the firm. I 13 A. Because I don't remember it. 13 was there for only two years as a partner when I had 14 Q. With all due respect, you haven't 14 enough and left. Q. Now, you testified that it was Mr. Latti's remembered a number of things that you believe you 15 did see. practice that once a case was settled, from that 16 16

17 A. Correct. Q. Is there some reason other than the fact that you don't recall seeing this to lead you to 19 20 believe that you didn't get it? A. Because of the office procedures at Latti & 21 22 Associates. The mail would come in. The mail was 23 separated by the office manager, reviewed by Mike 24 Latti, and then given to the individual attorneys.

point forward he controlled the flow of information? A. No, not that he controlled the flow of information. But the paperwork that related to when 20 the checks would come in, the individual attorneys 21 wouldn't get to see the checks. The checks weren't made out to Roger Hughes. They were made out to Latti & Associates. So you wouldn't get to see 24 that. Other things were happening in the firm at

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12 (Pages 42 to 45)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

| 1 ever see a copy of an annuity policy that was is | 42 ssued 1 does that mean? |
|--|---|
| as part of this settlement? | and incells |
| | 2 A. I had enough of the way that he ran the 3 firm. |
| 4 Q. Do you have any recollection of why you |] - (((())) |
| and tisee it or what the circumstances were? | to And What Was your disagreement with the |
| A. I have almost no recollection of any of the | the firm or your problem with the way be seen |
| , race in this case. | |
| 8 Q. Did you become aware at any time before | 7 A. I'm not sure we have enough time. |
| Will contacted by Mir, Kaplan in the nact was up | Q. can you sum it up for us quickly? |
| 10 Charter Security was taking the position that the | A. He ran the firm in a way that I disagreed. |
| annuity they issued was only good for 20 years a | Y. Can you give us an example of a |
| not for 20 years guaranteed and life? | "" ulsagreement? Was it a professional disagreement |
| 13 A. I didn't know who Charter Security was. | 12 you didn't like the style of his letterhead? |
| Before Mr. Kaplan called me and told me about, as he | 13 A. I didn't like the way that the employees |
| 15 referred to him as Mr. Dim and told me about, as he | 14 were treated. I didn't like the way matters were |
| referred to him as Mr. Dim-mon, I didn't know anything about this. | 15 handled. And I didn't like the way that I was |
| | 16 treated. |
| MS. McQUAY: I have no further questions. | |
| · - | 17 Q. I believe you testified earlier when you |
| The centaine; I have some. | the documents that you received for |
| ENGINALION | " Adplair trief there was a proposal shoot s |
| - VIII ECDEANC. | 20 Charter Security, what we have marked as Exhibit 24? 21 A. Yes. |
| e. In the time that the letters you ware | |
| 23 Showin, exhibits 4, 5, 6, was the address of taken | to can you lead the top of that who that who |
| | 177 halana - 18 |
| 1 A. I believe so, yes. | 24 that? |
| A. I believe so, yes. Q. At that time, do you have any recollection of there being any trouble at Latti Associates in terms of receiving mail, mail being delivered by the social section. | that? 1 A. It says: Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., One 2 Boston Place, Boston, Massachusetts, 02108, and a 3 telephone number. |
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16 (Pages 58 to 61)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

60 58 and ask the court to do something. That was already 1 C.? done. The court had already approved the A. Anyone that had any involvement in the 2 3 settlement. settlement of this case. 3 Q. But it would be incumbent upon the 4 O. But you don't have any specific 4 plaintiff to go to court if the plaintiff wasn't recollection of Charter Security being involved in 5 5 going to receive the full benefit of the settlement; the sense that they were involved in the settlement 6 7 isn't that true? 7 portion of this case. A. It would be incumbent upon the plaintiff to A. I have no independent recollection, but I 8 8 go to court if the company failed to live up to the q have in front of me Exhibit 24. 9 agreement that it entered into and was approved by Q. You just testified that you wouldn't have 10 10 done anything in this case where there's a dispute 11 the court. 11 between two parties, or two companies about what the O. When was the last time you spoke to 12 12 13 terms were. 13 Mr. Latti? A. I couldn't really say. Five, ten, fifteen 14 14 A. Right. Q. Under what circumstances would you have 15 15 Q. It was after you got the frantic call from 16 16 done something? A. I would have done something if the company 17 your wife? 17 that agreed to pay money didn't pay the money. Then 18 A. Yes. It was -- it may have been -- I may 18 have bumped into him at some bar function and I I would go into court to enforce the settlement. 19 19 Q. And why didn't you do that in this case? 20 think I probably said hello. 20 O. Do you know a Mr. Robert Foley of Dean A. Because the company was paying. I didn't 21 21 22 have any knowledge of this, but the company, it 22 Witter? A. I know a Robert Foley. I don't know 23 appears, paid money for 20 years. I didn't get a call from David Kaplan until recently, within the 24 whether he worked or works for Dean Witter. 24 59 Q. And how do you know the Mr. Foley that you last year, nine months to a year, maybe more. 1 2 do know? O. You testified earlier that part of your job 2 A. He was married to a person that I knew, is to make sure the plaintiffs get the most they can 3 3 still know, who lived in Scituate. 4 for the longest period. Q. Did you have any professional dealings with A. Correct, in a structured settlement. 5 5 6 that Mr. Foley? 6 Q. And in this, Dimon versus Jenny C. structured settlement, there was a dispute about 7 A. If it is the same person, it may be the same individual that's referred to in some of this what he could get and how long he could get it? 8 8 correspondence. I just don't know. 9 9 A. Not that I was aware of. Q. Do you know where we could find Ms. Foster 10 Q. Are you aware now that there was a dispute? 10 11 if we needed to? A. I am aware now that there are documents 11 MR. O'DRISCOLL: I hate to jump in 12 that indicate that there was a dispute: 12 again, but I'm having difficulty hearing both the Q. And if you are aware of that at the time in 13 13 questioning attorney and also the witness at this 1983 what, if anything, would you have done about 14 14 15 point. I'm not sure why. This happened a few 15 minutes ago; it has continued. 16 16 A. Nothing. MR, LeBLANC: I'll try to speak up. Q. Even though you were still counsel of 17 17 Q. Do you know where we can find Kathy Foster 18 record? 18 19 at this point? MR. DEWICK: Objection. 19 A. The last time I knew, she was someplace in 20 20 A. Yes. Because the court had approved the 21 Florida. settlement. If the defendants were not going to 21 Q. Do you know any other information about 22 abide by the court-approved settlement, it is 22 her, her middle name, birth date, anything like incumbent to go to the court to have the settlement 23 23 that? altered. It is not incumbent on the plaintiff to go 24

22 (Pages 82 to 85)

Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Volume 1 - May 10, 2006

| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 | CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER I, David A. Arsenault, Registered Professional Reporter, and Massachusetts Certified Reporter (100693), do certify that the deposition of ROGER E. HUGHES, JR., in the matter of Dimon v Me Life, on May 10, 2006, was stenographically recorded by me; that the witness provided satisfactory evidence of identification, as prescribed by Executive Order 455 (03-13) issued by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, before being sworn by me, a Notary Public in and for the | | WITNESS: ROGER E. HUGHES, JR. CASE: Dimon v Met Life SIGNATURE PAGE/ERRATA SHEET PAGE LINE CHANGE OR CORRECTION AND REASON | 84 |
|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 3 4 | EXAMINATIONS ROGER E. HUGHES, JR. BY MS. McQUAY BY MR. LeBLANC BY MR. DEWICK BY MR. LeBLANC BY MR. KEANE BY MR. O'DRISCOLL EXHIBITS MARKED 22, settlement sheet 23, trial transcript, 5/3/83 24, proposal by Charter Security Life Insurance Company of New Jersey 25, file of Mr. Hughes 72 53 Exhibits returned to Sandra Sue McQuay, Esq. | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 -12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 | Sent via UPS to witness on 5/17/06 ROGER E. HUGHES, JR. SIGNATURE PAGE/ERRATA SHEET INFORMATION For deposition taken on: May 10, 2006 Dimon v Met Life SIGNATURE INFORMATION FOR COUNSEL The original signature page/errata sheet has been sent to Roger E. Hughes, Jr. to obtain signature. When complete, please send original to Sandra Sue McQuay, Esq. A copy of any errata should be sent to each party of record present at the deposition. WITNESS INSTRUCTIONS After reading the transcript of your deposition, please note any change or correction and the reason on the errata/signature page. DO NOT make any notations on the transcript itself. If necessary, continue the format on a separate page. PLEASE SIGN AND DATE the errata/signature page (before a notary if requested) and return it to your counsel. | |

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-17 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 2

EXHIBIT P



Copy to Mary Graci, Ocean Marine Claim, New York City T. J. Donohue, Tech. Claim, Long Grove, B-8 John Kimberly, Tech. Claim, Long Grove, B-8 R. W. Boncher, Tech. Claim, Long Grove, B-8



11-8-83 Date

Klaus Lemhoefer, Div. Claim, Summit

J. L. Noe, Tech. Claim, Long Grove

Previous Comm.

From

RECEIVE KEMPER GROUP

NOV 1 1 1983

OCEAN MARINE CLAIMB NEW YORK

399 LM 106125-Z Regarding DIAMON V. JENNY C, INC.

> We have encountered some difficulty with Charter Security Life Insurance Company (New York) who issued the annuity The settlement agreement was to establish a fully paid annuity contract for a sum plus 3% compounded annually, added annually to be paid during the term of a plaintiff's life and in no event for less than 20 years. Mr. Hughes, plaintiff's attorney, made the arrangement with broker Mr. Foley of Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts and according to him, was quoted a premium of \$175,000 to meet that requirement. Mr. Foley and I had telephone communication in April 1983 at which time he confirmed what Mr. Hughes told The premium was paid, and the policy was issued and was Thereafter, Charter Security declared that a mistake had been made and issued a replacement policy for a term of 20 years certain, only. I rejected it. Charter Security tried to persuade me that their position was correct, and again they issued a replacement policy declaring the original policy to be null and void. Again, I rejected it and declared the original policy to be valid and enforceable. In the meantime, Mr. Hughes threatened Mr. Foley with an errors and omissions claim, and Mr. Foley, on advice of counsel, has nothing further to say.

I am now dealing with Charter Security's counsel in Jacksonville, Florida, who has asked for a copy of the settlement agreement. I hope they will be persuaded to honor the original policy, and if additional premium must be paid, this will be arranged between Charter Security and Mr. Foley of Dean Witter Reynolds. If not, Mr. Hughes may file an action for declaratory judgment.

In the meantime, plaintiff is receiving his benefits and will continue to do so for at least the 20 year certain term. I think this will ultimately work out.

JLN:es

Wary Greci NOV 1 1983

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-18 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 13

EXHIBIT Q

ORIGINAL

VOLUME: 1 PAGES: 1 - 94

EXHIBITS: See Index

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPOSITION of KATHERINE DIMON, a Witness called by and on behalf of the Defendants, taken pursuant to the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Vincent Martino, a Notary Public within and for the Comm. Of Massachusetts, held at the Law Offices of Ciapciak & Associates, PC, 99 Access Road, Norwood, MA 02062 on Monday, August 7, 2006, commencing at 11:30 a.m.

COPLEY COURT REPORTING
101 Tremont Street
Boston, Masssachusetts 02108
(617) 423-5841

ORIGINAL

VOLUME: 1 PAGES: 1 - 94

EXHIBITS: See Index

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

| ******* | ****** |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| DENNIS DIMON, |) |
| P | Plaintiff,) |
| |) |
| vs. |) |
| |) C.A. No. |
| METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE C | COMPANY,) 05-11073 WGY |
| KEMPER INSURANCE COMPANY, MOR | RGAN) |
| STANLEY DW, INC., MICHAEL B. | LATTI,) |
| LATTI ASSOCIATES and LATTI & | ANDERSON,) |
| LLP, |) |
| De | efendants.) |
| ******** | ***** |

DEPOSITION of KATHERINE DIMON, a Witness called by and on behalf of the Defendants, taken pursuant to the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Vincent Martino, a Notary Public within and for the Comm. Of Massachusetts, held at the Law Offices of Ciapciak & Associates, PC, 99 Access Road, Norwood, MA 02062 on Monday, August 7, 2006, commencing at 11:30 a.m.

COPLEY COURT REPORTING
101 Tremont Street
Boston, Masssachusetts 02108
(617) 423-5841

1 on the above contract? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Ο. Did you ever call MetLife or Charter Security on behalf of Mr. Dimon? 4 5 Α. Yes, I did. Q. Did he ask you to make those calls? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 He authorized you to speak on his behalf when you Q. made those calls? 9 10 Α. Yes. Do you recall why you called them prior to 11 Q. 12 September 24, 1999? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Why did you call them? Q. 15 Α. Because there was a problem. The bank called us and 16 they told us that the life insurance that we were using for 17 collateral to get the loan said that it would end in 2003. That's it. 18 19 Okay. When you say the bank, you are referring to Ο. Citizens Bank? 20 21 No, I'm talking about Newport Federal. Α. 22 Q. Who are they? That was the first bank we had, then we had 23 Citizens Bank. 24

Q. Did Citizens Bank acquire Newport Federal?

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We refinanced. 1 Α. So the loan you applied for in 2004 was a 2 Q. 3 refinance? Α. Yes. 4 And who did you refinance with? Ο. 5 The same bank, Citizens Bank. 6 Α. So in 1999 when you purchased Holly Ridge, you used 7 Q. Citizens Bank or a different bank? 8 No, a different bank. Α. What bank was that? Ο. 10 The one in Newport, Newport Federal. Α. 11 Then you refinanced with Citizens Bank? Q. 12 Α. Yes. 13 Then you refinanced a second time with Citizens 14 Ο. Bank? 15 Α. Yes. 16 So total for the Holly Ridge property, all of your 17 Ο. mortgage documents should either be with Newport Federal or 18 Citizens Bank? 19 20 Α. Yes. And your recollection today is that you still have 21 some of those documents? 22

alerted you sometime in 1999 or thereabouts that there was

Now was it Newport Federal who called you and

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24

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Α.

Yes.

a dispute or an issue with the collateral and the annuity? 1 Α. Yes. 2 That was prior to you receiving that letter of Ο. 3 September 24, 1999? 4 I don't recall the dates. Α. 5 Do you have access to any documents that would help Q. б you recall the dates? 7 Yes, I think so. I have a lot of problems getting Α. 8 to them because I have to climb in the little cubbyhole 9 thing and I have a bad knee. 10 Do you know someone who could climb in there for 11 Ο. 12 you? I have been trying. Α. 13 Do you know who at Newport Federal you were dealing Ο. 14 with? 15 Yes, Don -- I forgot what his last name was. It was Α. 16 N-a-z-i-l or something like that. The first name was Don. 17 Do you know if that was short for Donald? Ο. 18 Α. Yes. 19 Do you ever go to Newport Federal any more? Ο. 20 Α. No. 21 But as far as you know they are still in business? Q. 22 23 Α. They are, yes. Do you know who from Newport Federal called you to 24 0.

tell you about ---

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It was Don. 1 Α. About the annuity being used for collateral. Ο. 2 It was Don because he was handling our loan. Α. 3 Did the question about the annuity cause the loan 0. 4 to be cancelled or stopped in any way? 5 Α. No. 6 So the mortgage still went through? Ο. 7 Α. Yes. 8 And it still went through with Newport Federal? 9 Ο. Α. Yes. 10 Even though there was this dispute about ---11. Ο. It wasn't really a dispute. He questioned it and I Α. 12 told him they were quacks and they didn't know what they 13 were talking about. 14 Who were the quacks? 15 Ο. The insurance company. Α. 16 They are the ones that didn't know what they were 17 Q. talking about? 18 Right, because I told them it was supposed to be a Α. 19 lifetime thing for my husband. 20 In response to your discussion with the individual 21 from Newport Federal, did you ever call MetLife and ask 22 them? 23

were making some kind of mistake or something. I know I

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No, because I kind of like blew it off because they

should have called. 1 Are you positive you didn't call? 2 Q. I don't think so. Α. 3 But you may have called? Q. 4 I don't remember. Α. 5 If you look at what has been marked Exhibit 1, you 6 Ο. see where it explains or sets out the terms of the annuity 7 and ---8 Α. Yes. 9 You see where it says you receive monthly payments 10 Q. until the final payment on 5-5-2003? 11 Α. Yes. 12 You see the next line it says the monthly payments 13 Ο. begin on 6-5-1983? 14 Α. Yes. 15 And increase three percent annually? 16 Ο. Yes. Α. 17 Okay. Do you have any reason to dispute that part Q. 18 19 of it? MR. KEANE: What part of it actually? 20 The part beginning with the monthly payments begin 21 0. on 6-5-1983 and increase three percent annually. Do you 22 have any reason to dispute that? 23 24 Α. No.

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Q.

Where it says to figure payments in the remaining

years increase the payment three percent each June, do you see where it says that?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Did you ever attempt to figure out what the payments for the remaining years were going to be?
 - A. No. I don't even recall this letter.
- Q. Assuming your husband admitted in the request for admissions that we sent him that he received that letter marked Exhibit 1, you have no reason to believe that he lied about that, right?
 - A. Absolutely not.
- Q. So his testimony being that he actually received that letter, would it be fair to say that you would have read it to him if he received it?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. When was the first time that you recall becoming aware that there was a dispute about the terms of this annuity?
- A. When we applied for our loan at Newport Federal in 1999.
 - Q. Any time before that did you know?
 - A. None that I recall.
- Q. In light of the letters that were sent to Latti Associates, would it be fair to say that you could have known as early as 1983 there was a dispute?

MR. KEANE: Objection. You can answer it. 1 THE WITNESS: I don't think so. If you had received all those letters back and 3 forth between the insurance company saying it is twenty 4 years, it is life, it is twenty years, wouldn't that have 5 alerted you to the fact there was a dispute? 6 I don't think so because our lawyer was taking care 7 Α. of that stuff. 8 And when you say our lawyer, who was that? 0. Mr. Latti. Α. 10 So was it Mr. Latti's responsibility to do 11 Q. something about that or let you know about that? 12 MR. DEWICK: Objection. 13 THE WITNESS: Yes, I would think so. 14 And it is your testimony here today he didn't? Ο. 15 No, or I probably wouldn't be here if he did. A. 16 Why wouldn't you be here if he did? 17 Ο. Because then we would understand there was a 18 Α. problem somewhere along the way, either they would still be 19 continuing the money so we wouldn't have to be here. 20 You think if you had learned in 1983 there was a 21 dispute, you would have done something way back then? 22 I imagine my lawyer would. 23 Α. But if he had told you personally or your husband 24

that there was a dispute, would you have waited twenty

25

Not that I remember. 1 Α. Do you know how many times you attempted to get in 2 0. touch with Kemper? 3 Α. Probably once. 4 Do you know when this was? Ο. 5 It was in 2003. Α. 6 Probably around June or July of 2003? Ο. 7 Probably. Α. 8 You think you only tried to contact them once, Ο. correct? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Do you recall if you happened to speak with anyone 12 Q. at Kemper? 13 No, I don't recall. Α. 14 Did you ever attempt to contact Kemper back in 15 Q. 1983? 16 Not that I know of. 17 Α. Did you ever attempt to contact Kemper at any time 18 Q. other than that time in 2003? 19 Not that I remember. Α. 20 MR. GOLDEN: That's all I have. 21 MR. LEBLANC: Thank you very much. Actually we will 22 suspend the deposition at this point subject to Mr. Keane's 23 objection. 24

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(Whereupon at 4:55 p.m., the

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Deposition was Adjourned.)
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| 4 | CERTIFICATE |
| 5 | |
| 6 | COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS |
| 7 | NORFOLK, SS. |
| 8 | |
| 9 | I, Vincent R. Martino, Shorthand Reporter and |
| 10 | Notary Public within and for the Commonwealth of |
| 11 | Massachusetts, do hereby Certify: |
| 12 | That KATHERINE I. DIMON, the witness whose |
| 13 | deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me |
| 14 | and that such deposition is a true record of the testimony |
| 15 | given by the said witness to the best of my skill and |
| 16 | ability. |
| 17 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and |
| 18 | Notarial Seal this 11th day of August, 2006. |
| 19 | |
| 20 | JA ALL |
| 21 | Vincent R. Martino |
| 22 | Shorthand Reporter |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | |

EXHIBIT R

Best Quality

September 24 1999

Dennis Dimon P 0 80x 56 West Kingston Ri 02892 0056

RE CONTRACT # SCIW1128

Dear Mr. Dimon,

We received a cell from Katheryn Dimon requesting information on the above contract. This contract was issued as a structured settlement on \$15/1983. The owner of this contract is the American Motor Inturance Company. You interve monthly payments until the final payment on \$15/2003. The monthly payments until the final payment on \$15/2003. The monthly payments until the final payment on \$15/1983 and increase 3% annually. This is programmed into the computer to increase 3% annually. I do not have specific payment amounts. To figure payments for the remaining years, increase the payment 3% each Jime 5.

If you have any questions, please call our Customer Service Center at 1-800-835. 7775.

Sincerety.

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Teresa Thorp

Annual Benefits

EXHIBIT S

Page 1

LEXSEE 2000 MASS, APP, DIV, 261



Judith B. Grande vs. PFL Life Insurance Co.

INO NUMBER IN ORIGINAL

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, APPELLATE DIVISION, NORTHERN DISTRICT

2000 Mass. App. Div. 261; 2000 Mass. App. Div. LEXIS 96

September 27, 2000, Decided

PRIOR HISTORY: [**1] Opinion dismissing plaintiff's appeal. Action heard in the Ayer Division by Kilmartin, J.

DISPOSITION: Entry of summary judgment for defendant PEL Life Insurance Company affirmed. Appeal dismissed.

COUNSEL: Robert C. Moran for the plaintiff.

Stephen A. Roach for the defendant.

JUDGES: Merrick, P.J., Coven & Curtin, JJ.

OPINION BY: Coven

OPINION:

[*261] Coven, J. This is an action to recover for the defendant's alleged breach of contract, conversion and G.L.c. 93A unfair and deceptive acts in its sale of a life insurance policy to plaintiff Judith B. Grande ("Grande"). Grande claimed that the defendant's salesman represented that the policy was an annuity. Summary judgment was entered for the defendant, and Grande has appealed pursuant to Dist./Mun. Cts. R. A. D. A., Rule 8C.

The record indicates that on July 1, 1994, Grande met with one of defendant PFL Life Insurance

Company's ("PFL") agents at her home and purchased a policy. Grande alleges that she contracted to buy, and the agent described, an annuity toward which she was to make monthly contributions of \$ 500.00 until whatever time she decided to retire, that PFL would invest whatever contributions she had decided to make, and that she would begin [**2] to receive periodic distributions when she reached age sixty-five. At her deposition, Grande could not provide any information about interest rates, tax benefits, investment choices, precise maturity dates, pay-out sums or any other essential terms of the alleged annuity. n1 Grande also signed on July 1, 1994 a number of documents which included a Disclosure of Benefits form, an Application for Life Insurance, and an Authorization to Obtain and Disclose medical information. None of the documents she signed contained a single reference to an annuity. All of the documents she signed pertained to life insurance.

n1 Her lack of information did not result from an unfamiliarity with insurance products or investment terms. It was undisputed that Grande has a Masters in Business Administration; was self-employed as a marketing consultant with annual earnings of \$ 125,000.00; owned, with her husband, real estate, stocks and mutual funds valued at close to a million dollars; had invested in several real estate limited partnerships; and had a Keogh plan, an IRA, other life insurance

2000 Mass. App. Div. 261, *261; 2000 Mass. App. Div. LEXIS 96, **2

policies and an annuity.

[**3]

On July 6, 1994, PFL issued life insurance policy no. 7-242005506 to Grande. She claimed that she never received the policy or a copy thereof.

Approximately one year later, on August 22, 1995, Grande sent a letter to PFL informing it that she was discontinuing her monthly payments of \$ 500.00 because she intended to retire on October 5, 1995. PFL responded that her letter constituted a cancellation of her policy, and that her insurance protection would terminate on September 6, 1995, without any further liability. Grande immediately asked PFL not to cancel the policy until she "straightened things out." She conceded that, after reading the documents she had signed in 1994, it was clear that she had purchased a life insurance policy and not an annuity. Grande continued, however, to make [*262] monthly \$ 500.00 payments for another year. through September, 1996.

Grande filed this action on February 25, 1997 to recover damages in the amount of the total monthly payments she had made, plus reasonable attorney's fees. PFL filed an answer denying the complaint allegations. and a counterclaim in quantum meruit for the value of the life insurance coverage Grande had enjoyed for two [**4] years.

In March, 1999, PFL filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings on the grounds, inter alia, that Grande's claims were time-barred by the G.L.c. 175, § 181 two year statute of limitations. After hearing, the court elected to treat the motion as one for summary judgment under Mass. R. Civ. P., Rule 56, and notified the parties of their right to submit any additional materials. Mass. R. Civ. P., Rule 12(c). See generally Bell v. Zoning Board of Appeals of Gloucester, 429 Mass. 551, 555, 709 N.E.2d 815 (1999). On September 3, 1999, the court allowed PFL's summary judgment motion, and dismissed all of Grande's claims as well as PFL's counterclaim. In his memorandum of decision, the motion judge noted that Grande, "a sophisticated, educated MBA graduate with extensive business experience," had sought to avoid the G.L.c. 175, § 181 limitations bar by characterizing her misrepresentation claim as one for breach of contract, and that the evidence she advanced was insufficient to raise a material issue warranting a trial on any claim.

1. The record before us was an appropriate one for the entry of summary judgment on statute [**5] of limitations grounds on Grande's claims for breach of contract and conversion. Fidler v. E.M. Parker Co., 394 Mass. 534, 546, 476 N.E.2d 595 (1985); Malapanis v. Shirazi, 21 Mass. App. Ct. 378, 383, 487 N.E.2d 533 (1986). PFL satisfied its initial Rule 56 burden of establishing, on the basis of undisputed facts, that Grande's claims were barred by the two year statute of limitations set forth in G.L.c. 175, § 181. The statute provides, in pertinent part:

> No company, no officer or agent thereof and no insurance broker or insurance adviser shall make, issue, circulate or use, or cause or permit to be made, issued, circulated or used, any written or oral statement misrepresenting the terms of any policy of insurance or any annuity or pure endowment contract issued or to be issued by any company. ... The insured under any policy of life or endowment insurance or the holder of any annuity ... who was induced to procure it by an action in violation of this section by an officer or agent of the company issuing or executing it may recover from such company all premiums paid on such policy or contract ... in an action brought within two years after [**6] the date of the issue thereof.

Although Grande's first claim is for breach of contract, it is the "gravamen of [her] complaint" which dictates the applicable statute of limitations. Pagliuca v. Boston, 35 Mass. App. Ct. 820, 823, 626 N.E.2d 625 (1994). Grande admitted in her deposition, and her attorney's G.L.c. 93A demand letter further indicated, that her claim against PFL arose solely out of the alleged misrepresentations by PFL's agent who supposedly advised her of the terms of an annuity in selling her a life insurance policy. n2 Grande could not "escape the consequences" of the G.L.c. 175, § 181 shorter statute of limitations for PFL's alleged misrepresentations "merely by labeling [her] claim as contractual." Fall River Hous. Auth. v. H.V. Collins Co., 414 Mass. 10, 15 n.6, 604 N.E.2d 1310 (1992). See also Hendrickson v. Sears, 365 Mass. 83, 85, 310 N.E.2d 131 (1974). Therefore, pursuant to § 181, Grande's cause of action accrued on July 6, 1994. Given the applicable two

Page 3

year limitations period, Grande's February 25, 1997 complaint was filed too late.

n2 Grande's attorney's letter accused PFL of "misrepresentations, half truths and outright lies."

[**7]

Once PFL satisfied its burden of proving that Grande's "contract" claim was filed after the expiration of the statute of limitations, the Rule 56 burden shifted to Grande to set forth specific facts which would "take her claim outside the statute." McGuinness [*263] v. Cotter, 412 Mass. 617, 620, 591 N.E.2d 659 (1992). Grande asserted only that she did not receive a copy of the insurance policy issued by PFL and was thus prevented from discovering that she had purchased life insurance rather than an annuity. Under the "discovery rule," an action which is based on an "inherently unknowable" wrong does not accrue for statute of limitations purposes "until the injured party knows or in the exercise of reasonable diligence should know the factual basis for the cause of action." Puritan Medical Center, Inc. v. Cashman, 413 Mass. 167, 175, 596 N.E.2d 1004 (1992); Frank Cooke, Inc. v. Hurwitz, 10 Mass. App. Ct. 99, 106, 406 N.E.2d 678 (1980). However, the limitations period is not tolled unless the basis of the plaintiff's claim was "inherently unknowable" or incapable of being discovered through the exercise of ordinary diligence. Melrose Hous. Auth. v. New Hampshire Ins. Co., 24 Mass. App. Ct. 207, 212, 507 N.E.2d 787 (1987). [**8]

As a matter of law, the nature of the insurance contract purchased and Grande thus PFL's misrepresentations concerning the same were not "inherently unknowable." See Kent v. Dupree, 13 Mass. Ct. 44. 47. 429 N.E.2d 1041 (misrepresentation not "inherently unknowable" when it was apparent on the basis of express terms of written document given to plaintiff's attorney). The Disclosure of Benefits and Application forms Grande completed with PFL's agent on July 1, 1994 were clearly labeled "Life Insurance." Grande had access to these forms before the life insurance policy was ever issued, but neglected to read them. She conceded that when she later reviewed the forms, it was clear that she had contracted for life insurance rather than an annuity. The basis of Grande's "contract" claim could have been discovered, therefore, through the exercise of reasonable diligence as early as July 1, 1994. Thus the statute of limitations was not

tolled, Grande's cause of action accrued on July 6, 1994 when the policy was issued pursuant to G.L.c. 175, § 181, and the two year period for commencing suit expired prior to the filing of her complaint.

2. Grande [**9] contends that she is entitled to at least a trial on the merits on her claim for conversion because that claim is governed by the longer three year statute of limitations set forth in G.L.c. 260, § 2A. See Patsos v. First Albany Corp., 48 Mass. App. Ct. 266, 270 n.6, 719 N.E.2d 882 (1999). Section 19 of G.L.c. 260 expressly provides, however, that "if a special provision is otherwise made relative to the limitation of any action, any provision of this chapter inconsistent therewith shall not apply." See generally Maltz v. Smith Barney, Inc., 427 Mass. 560, 563, 694 N.E.2d 840 (1998). The two year limitations period of G.L.c. 175, § 181 is a "special provision" which governs this action for the reasons outlined above, and thus the three year conversion statute of limitations does not apply. Grande's conversion claim alleges that PFL misappropriated her \$ 13,550.00 in contributions to what she believed was an annuity, and converted the money to premiums for a life insurance policy. Once again, the gravamen of Grande's claim is the alleged misrepresentation by PFL's agent that the insurance product [**10] she purchased was an annuity. The conversion claim is thus barred by G.L.c. 175, \S 181.

Even if the claim had been timely filed, Grande failed to advance evidence of the elements of conversion sufficient to permit a trial of her claim. The tort of conversion requires a wrongful exercise of dominion or control over the personal property of another by one who has no right of possession at the time. Third Nat'l Bank of Hampden County v. Continental Ins. Co., 388 Mass. 240, 244, 446 N.E.2d 380 (1983); Abington Nat'l Bank v. Ashwood Homes, Inc., 19 Mass. App. Ct. 503, 507, 475 N.E.2d 1230 (1985). "The action cannot be maintained without proof that the defendant either did some positive wrongful act with the intention to appropriate the property to himself or to deprive the rightful owner of it, or destroyed the property." Spooner v. Manchester, 133 Mass. 270, 273 (1882). The record herein is devoid of any facts suggesting that PFL exercised any wrongful control over the monthly payments voluntarily made by Grande, or took any action with respect to such payments other than providing her with the life insurance coverage which the [**11] documents establish that she purchased. Further, upon receiving Grande's notice that she was discontinuing [*264] monthly payments, PFL 2000 Mass. App. Div. 261, *264; 2000 Mass. App. Div. LEXIS 96, **11

promptly advised her that the life insurance policy would be canceled without any additional liability, per her request. Given the absence of any specific facts demonstrating Grande's ability to establish a threshold case of conversion, therefore, PFL would have been entitled to summary judgment on this complaint count even if G.L.c. 175, \S 181 were inapplicable.

3. Grande's G.L.c. 93A claim is based on PFL's alleged violations of G.L.c. 176D, § 3(1)(a)(misrepresentation of insurance policy terms) and PFL's undisputed violation of the disclosure requirements of 211 CMR 31.05 (failure to provide life insurance Buyer's Guide and Policy Summary). Grande has, however, advanced no authority for the proposition that violations of G.L.c. 176D, § 3(1) or 211 CMR 31.05 may per se form the basis of an action pursuant to G.L.c. 93A. There is nothing in the Insurance Solicitation Regulations in question which references G.L.c. 93A, or which makes a violation of its provisions [**12] an unfair and deceptive act. Chapter 176D creates no private right of action for any violation of its provisions. See Ryan v. Fallon Community Health Plan, Inc., 921 F. Supp. 34, 38 (D. Mass. 1996); Pariseau v. Albany Intern. Corp., 822 F. Supp. 843, 845 (D. Mass. 1993). Sections 6 and 7 afford the Commissioner of Insurance the exclusive authority to enforce G.L.c. 176D requirements.

Further, following the decision in *Dodd* v. Commercial Union Ins. Co., 373 Mass. 72, 365 N.E.2d 802 (1977), which held that "c. 176D does not bar application of c. 93A to unfair or deceptive insurance acts or practices," Id. at 78, the Legislature amended G.L.c. 93A, § 9 to make violations of G.L.c. 176D, § 3(9) actionable under G.L.c. 93A. See Van Dyke v. St. Paul Fire & Marine Ins. Co., 388 Mass. 671, 675, 448 N.E.2d 357 (1983). The Legislature specified § 3(9) of G.L.c. 176D, and did not include violations of § 3(1) or any other section of that statute. Ordinary canons of construction dictate that a court will not "read into [a] statute a provision which the Legislature did not [**13] see fit to put there, whether the omission came from inadvertence or set purpose." General Elec. Co. v. Department of Environmental Protec., 429 Mass. 798, 803, 711 N.E.2d 589 (1999), quoting from King v. Viscoloid Co., 219 Mass. 420, 425, 106 N.E. 988 (1914), See also Sterilite Corp. v. Continental Cas. Co., 397 Mass. 837, 839 n.3, 494 N.E.2d 1008 (1986); Mitchell v. Mitchell, 312 Mass. 154, 161, 43 N.E.2d 783 (1942). We conclude, therefore, that there is no individual cause of

action for an insurer's violations of G.L.c. 176D, § 3(1) or 211 CMR 31.05 under G.L.c. 93A.

Filed 01/02/2007

As violations of the insurance statutes and regulations in question amount to misrepresentations by an insurer, they may instead form the basis for a G.L.c. 175, § 181 action. Section 3(1)(a) of G.L.c. 176D makes it an unfair or deceptive act for an insurer to "misrepresent the benefits, advantages, conditions or terms of any insurance policy." This statutory language tracks the specific terms of G.L.c. 175, § 181, which is expressly applicable to actions based on "any written or oral statement misrepresenting the [**14] terms of any policy of insurance or any annuity." PFL's violation of 211 CMR 31.05(1)(a) in failing to provide Grande with the life insurance Buyer's Guide and Policy Summaries mandated by the regulation also amounted to misrepresentation. Pursuant to 211 CMR 31.07, the "failure of an insurer to provide or deliver a Buyer's Guide or a Policy Summary as provided in § 5 shall constitute an omission which misrepresents the benefits, advantages, conditions or terms of an insurance policy [emphasis supplied]." n3 Again, however, a G.L.c. 175, § 181 action must be brought within two years of the date of the issuance of the insurance policy. Grande's claims are time-barred.

> n3 Compare 211 CMR 34.08(3) which expressly renders the failure to comply with regulatory requirements for the replacement of life insurance or an annuity "an unfair method of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance." Based on the specific terms of § 34.08(3), it has been held that non-compliance with § 34.00 et seq. constitutes a per se violation of G.L.c. 93A which may be the basis for a private cause of action by a consumer pursuant to that statute. Mayer v. Cohen-Miles Ins. Agency, Inc., 48 Mass. App. Ct. 435, 439, 722 N.E.2d 27 (2000).

[**15]

[*265] The trial court's entry of summary judgment for defendant PFL Life Insurance Company is affirmed. Appeal dismissed.

So ordered.

EXHIBIT T

Law Offices of Hans R. Hailey

Attorneys at Law 225 Friend Street, 5th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02114

hhailey@erols.com

(617) 723-4010 Fax (617) 720-6012

www.haileylaw.com

Hans R. Hailey Gene R. Charny

November 10, 2006

Brian Keane, Esquire The Kaplan/Bond Group 85 Black Falcon Avenue, Suite 301 Boston, Massachusetts 02210

RE: Dimon v. Michael Latti, Latti Associates, Latti & Anderson LLP, Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., Kemper Ins. Co. And Morgan Stanley, DW, Inc. U.S.D.C. Civil Action No. 05-11073-REK

Dear Mr. Keane:

Thank you for inviting me to serve as an expert witness. More specifically, you would like me to address the issue of whether the representation of Dennis Dimon by Latti Associates was negligent because of its failure to insure that Mr. Dimon's annuity was limited to twenty years and did not continue for the rest of his life. My short answer is that Latti Associates was indeed negligent.

Let me start by listing the materials I reviewed, all of which you provided.

MATERIALS CONSIDERED:

- 1. Charter Security Life Insurance Company annuity application;
- 2. Supplementary Agreement;
- 3. Letter from Barbara Boehm to Kurt Snyder dated July 14, 1983;
- 4. Letter from John Noe to Robert Foley dated August 12, 1983;
- 5. Letter from Robert Liguori to John Noe dated September 26, 1983;
- 6. Letter from John Noe to Robert Liguorl dated October 10, 1983;
- 7. Letter from John Noe to Barabara Boehm dated October 12, 1983;
- 8. Letter from Barbara Boehm to John Noe dated October 14, 1983;

Brian Keane, Esquire November 10, 2006 Page Two

- 9. A settlement sheet from Latti and Associates date of settlement on April 19, 1983;
- 10. A transcript of the Guardian Ad Litem hearing dated May 3. 1983;
- 11. A proposal by Charter Security Life Insurance Company of New Jersey dated April 8, 1983;
- 12. The docket from the U.S District Court for the District of Rhode Island for Docket No. 81-0063;
- 13. Letter from David B. Kaplan to Roger E. Hughes, Esq. Dated December 2, 2005;
- 14. Letter from Sandra Sue McQuay to Roger E. Hughes Jr., Esq. Dated April 13, 2006;
- 15. The Subpoena in a civil case from the U.S. District Court, case number: 05-11073:
- 16. Deposition of Roger E. Hughes, Jr. Dated May 10, 2006; and
- 17. Deposition of Michael B. Latti dated July 25, 2006.

FACTS:

The facts upon which my opinions are based begin with Mr. Dimon's loss of an eye. Latti Associates, as it was known in 1983, represented him in a claim against the Jenny C., Inc. Latti Associates concentrated in representing plaintiffs in personal injury claims. The claim was handled pursuant to a written contingent fee agreement. Suit was filed in the U.S. District for the District of Rhode Island and went to trial in February 1983.

Joseph Flannery, a limited partner in Latti Associates, represented Dimon at trial and secured a judgment in excess of \$700,000. As a result of post trial motions filed by the defendant, a settlement was reached in April, 1983. Mr. Flannery had by that time left the firm and Roger Hughes, also a partner in the firm, undertook Mr. Dimon's representation.

A release was signed and Judge Pettine held an initial hearing to approve the settlement. Being uneasy about the ability of Mr. Dimon to appreciate the settlement fully and to agree to it voluntarily, he asked attorney Leonard Decof to serve as guardian ad litem. In May 1983, a hearing was held and Mr. Decof report to Judge Pettine the details of the settlement and that Mr. Dimon fully comprehended the settlement and was happy to accept it.

The settlement was for an immediate payment of \$250,000 and monthly payments

Brian Keane, Esquire November 10, 2006 Page Three

for the rest of his life, with a guaranteed minimum of 20 years of payments. The payments were to be in the initial amount of \$1,450 per month and were to increase by three per cent each year. A "Proposal By Charter Security Life Insurance Company of New Jersey" indicated the monthly payments would increase to \$6,173.43 by the 50th year. Mr. Dimon was 23 years old at the time of this settlement and had a life expectancy of 49.7 years. The settlement had a total value of \$425,000, which was almost as much as the insurance coverage available.

Based on this settlement, Latti Associates received a fee of \$141,485.47, plus reimbursement of the expenses it advanced. About \$200 was shaved off the fee to accommodate Mr. Dimon's hope to recover \$100,000 of the \$250,000 due immediately.

American Motorists Insurance Company, part of the Kemper Group, insured the defendant. It purchased the annuity from Charter Security Life Insurance Company through Robert Foley at Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. American Motorists was the owner of the policy.

An annuity contract was sent to Mr. Foley in June, 1983. As provided by the settlement, the annuity was to pay Mr. Dimon monthly for the rest of his life and guaranteed payments for at least twenty years.

A month later, the fun began. Barbara Boehm, of Charter Security, wrote to Kurt Snyder of Dean Witter. In a curt letter, she said simply that a "clerical error" had been made in issuing the annuity for life, that it should have been limited to twenty years. She sent a new annuity contract and asked that the earlier contract be returned.

That triggered letters between Charter Security and American Motorists. Roger Hughes was sent a copy of each letter; those copies were mailed to the proper address. American Motorists took the position that the initial annuity was valid and refused to return that policy as requested. Unfortunately, Charter Security took a different position and terminated payments after twenty years.

There was no further correspondence after last of these letters, which is dated October 14, 1983.

Missing in the correspondence and the depositions is any reference to any action taken by Latti Associates. They never communicated, by phone or by letter, any

Brian Keane, Esquire November 10, 2006 Page Four

insistence on compliance with the terms of the settlement. They apparently never communicated with their client that there was an issue with the annuity.

Neither Mr. Hughes nor Mr. Latti have any memory of taking any action to enforce the terms of the settlement. According to Mr. Hughes, even though his appearance was never withdrawn, he wouldn't have done anything in these circumstances; he accepted it as a dispute between two insurance companies. He would have intervened only if the insurance company didn't pay what it was obligated to pay.

Mr. Latti had very much the same mind set. However, he believed that he was powerless to take any action because, in his opinion, Massachusetts does not accept the doctrine of anticipatory breach, meaning that no action could be maintained before the time for performance had passed. Accordingly, he had no duty to take any action to enforce the contract (the settlement).

OPINIONS:

By failing to take any action to enforce the terms of the settlement, Latti Associates¹ breached it's duty to its client, served its client in a manner below the standard of care of the average qualified personal injury attorney and may have violated the present version of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Having undertaken to represent Dimon and for so long as Latti Associates did represent him, it was obligated to represent him zealously and not neglect his claim. Both Mr. Hughes and Mr. Latti acknowledged in their depositions that it was their job to obtain as much money for their client as possible.

Having negotiated a settlement, the duty of Latti Associates was to ensure that the settlement terms were fulfilled. More specifically, by the settlement Mr. Dimon released his claims in exchange for a lifetime annuity (along with a present cash payment). Indeed, Latti Associates took its full fee based on the settlement. When the controversy

By "Latti Associates," I mean Mr. Hughes and Mr. Latti, the two partners of the firm in 1983. I express no opinion about whether the present day version of that firm is responsible for the acts of the prior partners. Of course, however, as partners, Mr. Latti and Mr. Hughes are responsible for each other's acts.

Brian Keane, Esquire November 10, 2006 Page Five

arose over whether the annuity would be limited to twenty years, Latti Associates had the duty to take those steps reasonably necessary to ensure that the annuity would continue for life. By accepting the controversy as one simply between two insurance companies and having failed to do anything, Latti Associates breached both its legal and contractual duty to its client. The result was that the annuity payments ended after twenty years.

The duty to its client was also breached by having failed to inform Mr. Dimon of the dispute. An attorney has a duty to keep his clients informed of important developments in the client's case. The dispute being unknown to Mr. Dimon, he lost his opportunity to insist the dispute be resolved (or hire new counsel to do so) and thereby avoid the interruption in his annuity.

The standard practice of personal injury attorneys often includes services after the settlement of a client's claim. Often, for example, a lien, such as a Medicare lien, needs to be negotiated, or judicial approval of a settlement needs to be obtained. These services are part of the job a personal injury attorney accepts. Moreover, an additional fee is not charged; payment for such services is included in the contingent fee charged. Having done nothing when the controversy arose, Latti Associates' services (post settlement) fell below the standard of the average qualified personal injury attorney.

As a further matter, the failure to intercede in the controversy may have violated the Professional Rules of Conduct, or, more particularly the Disciplinary Rules in effect in 1983. Disciplinary Rule 2-110 provided in part:

"a lawyer shall not withdraw from employment until he has taken reasonable steps to avoid foreseeable prejudice to the rights of his client, including giving due notice to his client, allowing time for employment of other counsel, delivering to the client all papers and property to which the client is entitled, and complying with applicable laws and rules."

Dimon was prejudiced by Latti Associates' termination of services at the time that the controversy arose. The prejudice was very foreseeable. Mr. Dimon did not receive the benefit of his bargain and his annuity terminated.

As a final matter, I'd like to address Mr. Latti's concern that there would have

Brian Keane, Esquire November 9, 2006 Page Six

been nothing he could do in 1983, that Mr. Dimon would have to wait until the annuity terminated because of the defense based on the doctrine of anticipatory breach. The concern is unfounded. That doctrine has sufficient exceptions to allow an action to enforce the settlement agreement. See, e.g. c. 106, §2-610. More to the point, this was a written settlement agreement and such agreements are enforceable even if unwritten. Peters v. Wallach, 366 Mass. 622, 628 (1975). More concretely, the controversy involved an actual breach of the contract in 1983. Charter Security initially provided a written annuity contract for life, but then disowned that contract and replaced it with one limited to twenty years. That breach was enforceable in 1983.

FEE SCHEDULE:

Services will simply be billed at the rate of \$420 per hour. No retainer will be required and there will be no minimum charge for testimony at a deposition or trial.

PRIOR TESTIMONY:

I have not testified at deposition or at trial in the prior four years, with the exception of my testimony at the trial of the 93A/176D claim in *Bobick v. U.S.F. & G. et al*, Suffolk Superior Court No. 94-5753B. My testimony was not as an expert, but rather involved my handling of the underlying tort claims.

Very truly yours, Hans Z. Harly

Hans R. Hailey

HRH/at

Enclosure: Resume

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-22 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 10

EXHIBIT U

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

| DENNIS DIMON, |) | | | ORIGINAL |
|--|---------|------|-----|--------------|
| Plaintiffs, |) | | | - |
| Vs. |) | C.A. | No: | 05-11073 WGY |
| METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE, KEMPER INSURANCE COMPANY, MORGAN STANLEY DW, INC., MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI ASSOCIATES, and LATTI & ANDERSON LLP, |)))) | | | |
| Defendants. |) | | | |

MENSIE, called by the Defendant Metropolitan Life
Insurance for examination, pursuant to Notice, and
pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure for the United
States District Courts pertaining to the taking of
depositions, taken before Joanne M. Brogan, a Certified
Shorthand Reporter and a Notary Public in and for the
County of Cook and State of Illinois, at One Kemper
Drive, Long Grove, Illinois, on Thursday, 7th day of
September, 2006, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m.

- 1 I'm not sure which party it was.
 2 Q And when did you -- did you review that
 3 communication recently?
- A It was by email. So it was instantly reviewed and discarded. I mean it was a simple communication.

 We're trying to expedite getting this material to him, and the person took it upon themselves to advise him that the file was enroute.
- 9 Q And when did you see that communication?
- 10 A It would have been last week I believe.
- 11 Q Okay. Mr. Mensie, during our break did you

 12 review any documents other than the document I requested

 13 you find?
- 14 A In order to find that document I had to look 15 through other documents.
- 16 Q Did you go anyplace during the break?
- 17 A I went -- yes.
- Q Okay. Other than conferences with counsel and what I suspect might have been a trip to the restroom,
- 20 did you go back to your office?
- 21 A I did not.

- Q Office at Kemper?
- 23 A I did not.
- Q Okay. Now, with reference to the Dimon versus

| 1 | agree to any suspension of the deposition. There's been |
|----|---|
| 2 | no cause whatsoever shown for that, and that should |
| 3 | suffice. |
| 4 | MR. LeBLANC: Thank you all. Thank you, Mr. |
| 5 | Mensie. |
| 6 | THE REPORTER: Do you do signature? |
| 7 | MR. O'DRISCOLL: Yes. |
| 8 | THE REPORTER: He needs to read? |
| 9 | MR. O'DRISCOLL: Yes. |
| 10 | MR. LeBLANC: Let's go off record but take care |
| 11 | of some housekeeping issues, can we all agree to that? |
| 12 | (Discussion held off the record.) |
| 13 | (Witness excused.) |
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| 1 | I have read the foregoing transcript of my deposition taken on September 7 and 8, 2006, and |
|----|---|
| 2 | It is a true and correct transcript of my deposition given on the day and date aforesaid. |
| 3 | (or) I wish to make the following changes to my |
| 4 | deposition: |
| 5 | Page Line Change |
| 6 | Reason |
| 7 | Page Line Change |
| 8 | Reason |
| 9 | Page Line Change |
| 10 | Reason |
| 11 | Page Line Change |
| 12 | Reason |
| 13 | |
| 14 | Page Line Change |
| 15 | Reason |
| 16 | Page Line Change |
| 17 | Reason |
| 18 | |
| | William R. Mensie |
| 19 | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| 20 | Subscribed and sworn to |
| 21 | before me this day of, 2006. |
| 22 | O1 |
| 23 | (Seal) Notary Public |
| 24 | (DCGT) MOGGT - GOTT |

| 1 | |
|----|---|
| 2 | STATE OF ILLINOIS)) SS. |
| 3 | COUNTY OF C O O K) |
| 4 | |
| 5 | I, JOANNE M. BROGAN, CSR, RPR, a notary |
| 6 | public in and for the County of Cook and State of |
| 7 | Illinois, do hereby certify that WILLIAM R. MENSIE, was |
| 8 | by me first duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole |
| 9 | truth, and nothing but the truth, and that the above |
| 10 | deposition was recorded stenographically by me and |
| 11 | reduced to computer-aided transcription by me. |
| 12 | I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing |
| 13 | transcript of the said deposition is a true, correct, and |
| 14 | complete transcript of the testimony given by the said |
| 15 | witness at the time and place specified hereinbefore. |
| 16 | I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a |
| 17 | relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the |
| 18 | parties, nor a relative or employee of such attorney or |
| 19 | counsel, or financially interested directly or indirectly |
| 20 | in this action. |
| 21 | |
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24

| 1 | |
|----|---|
| 2 | I FURTHER CERTIFY that my certificate |
| 3 | annexed hereto applies to the original and typed |
| 4 | transcripts only, signed and certified transcripts only. |
| 5 | I assume no responsibility for the accuracy of any |
| 6 | reproduced copies not made under my control or direction. |
| 7 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my |
| 8 | hand and affixed my seal of office at Chicago, Illinois, |
| 9 | this 28th day of September, 2006. |
| 10 | |
| 11 | Certified Shorthand Reporter |
| 12 | Registered Professional Reporter Notary Public, Cook County, Illinois |
| 13 | C.S.R. No. 084-002353 |
| 14 | |
| 15 | CEAL CEAL |
| 16 | OFFICIAL SEAL OFFICIAL SEAL JOANNE M BROGAN JOANNE M BROGAN NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS |
| 17 | JOANNE STATE OF ILLINOIS NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF |
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JEROME B. SPUNT
ATTORNEY AT LAW
II PARK ROW
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

(401) 274-4044

March 10, 1983

W. Slater Allen, Jr., Esq. 155 Westminster Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Re: Dennis Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.

Dear Mr. Allen:

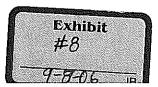
On behalf of Jenny C., Inc., I want to write you formally as attorney for American Motorists Insurance Company (Kemper Group) to register my distress at the current status of the case and the failure of your company to make reasonable efforts to settle the matter within the policy limits. This is, in substance, what I said to you informally in our phone conversation yesterday.

As you know, plaintiff demanded \$90,000 before trial began, and by my letter of January 19, 1983 I put Home Indemnity Company on notice that I saw a risk of a verdict in exesss of \$500,000 and that Home would be liable for breach of its duties to the insured in failing to compromise the case in the event of judgment over the policy limits. I understand that you gave Home similar notice.

We are now faced with a jury verdict of in exesss of \$720,000. The assets of the corporation representing, substantially, the life savings of my clients, Gary Champlin and his father Leon F. Champlin, may well have to be taken to satisfy this judgment.

Joseph Flannery, plaintiff's counsel, has taken the position that "he does not want to bid against himself", and in the absence of a responsible indication of a willingness to negotiate on the part of defendant, has stuck to his original post-verdict settlement proposal which he first made to you on February 10, 1983, that is, that plaintiff would now be willing to accept \$600,000 prior to the hearing on limitation of liability. Jack Wells has advised me that Home Indemnity Company will now, of course, contribute the balance of its policy, and we would expect any proposal by your company to be conditioned on that.

You told me, when we talked yesterday, that neither Jack Wells nor Joe Flannery have put any proposals in writing, and you are not disposed to make any suggestions to your company until they do so. I implore you not to stand on ceremony. There is a realistic chance



W. Slater Allen, Jr., Esq. -2-March 10, 1983

the case can be settled within the \$500,000 aggregate policy limits, and the \$600,000 demand by plaintiff should be regarded, realistically, only as his opening proposal, which has been left unresponded to for one month.

Your company, I believe, has an obligation to the insured to make responsible efforts to eliminate the risk of ultimate judgment being entered for \$720,000 or more. If you feel that others have made mistakes in the past, that is no reason to suspend efforts for a sensible solution at this time.

I feel, further, that your company has an obligation to affirmatively make a proposal, within the policy limits, for settlement at this time. It is more than likely that Mr. Flannery will respond with a demand within the policy limits.

We fully understand and appreciate the question that exists as between American Motorists and Home Indemnity as to Home's obligation to share in payment of amounts in excess of its policy limits, and Jack Wells advises, as you know, that this matter can be left open and would not be prejudiced in any way by your company's payment.

In my opinion, if your company does not alter its position as outlined above, it, in addition to Home Indemnity Company, will be liable to the insured for judgment in excess of the policy limits.

Very truly yours,

JEROME B. SPUNT

JBS:ilb

cc: Guy J. Wells, Esq. Gary Champlin



MEDWAY MARINE

CORPORATION

OCEAN & INLAND MARINE INSURANCE

P.O. BOX 2385

PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND 02906

TELEPHONE (401) 861 - 6800 - TELEGRAMS: SMITHINC

TELEX - 92 - 7751

March 10, 1983

W. Slater Allen, Esq. Booth and Brodsky 515 Howard Building Providence, RI 02903

RE: Fishing Vessel Jenny C

Dear Mr. Allen:

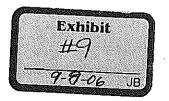
No Protection and Indemnity insurance in excess of the limit of liability in the American Motorists Insurance Company excess policy was in effect through this agency on the date of the accident in the case on which you are acting as counsel for the Kemper Insurance Group.

Yours very truly,

MEDWAY, MARINE CORPORATION

Carleton I. Fisher Vice President

CIF:rw





UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

| DENNIS DIMON, |) |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Plaintiff, |))) |
| V. |) Civil Action No. 05-11073 REK |
| METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE CO., KEMPER INSURANCE CO., MORGAN STANLEY DW, INC.MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI ASSOCIATES, and LATTI & |)))) |
| ANDERSON LLP, Defendants. |))) |

MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI ASSOCIATES, AND LATTI & ANDERSON LLP'S INITIAL DISCLOSURES PURSUANT TO RULE 26(a)

Defendants Michael B. Latti, Latti Associates, and Latti & Anderson LLP (referred to hereafter collectively as "Latti") hereby submit their initial disclosures pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a).

- (A) The following individuals are likely to have discoverable information that Latti may use to support its claims or defenses.
 - Michael Latti
 Surfpoint Road
 York, ME 03909
 - Carolyn Latti
 Latti & Anderson LLP
 30-31 Union Wharf
 Boston, MA 02109

3. Roger Hughes
Hughes & Associates
46 Accord Park Drive
Norwell, MA 02061
(781) 681-5100

Roger Hughes was the Latti Associates attorney who represented Dennis Dimon in <u>Dimon v. Jenny C., Inc.</u> and who negotiated the structured settlement at issue.

4. Leonard Decof One Smith Hill Providence, RI 02903 (401) 272-1110

Leonard Decof served as Mr. Dimon's guardian ad litem in connection with the settlement of <u>Dimon v. Jenny C.</u>, Inc.

5. Dennis Dimon

Dennis Dimon is the plaintiff in this matter.

6. Kathy Dimon

Upon information and belief, Dennis Dimon's wife participated in discussions regarding the terms of the underlying settlement in question during the time that the settlement was being negotiated and approved by the court.

7. Janice Dimon

Upon information and belief, Dennis Dimon's mother participate in discussion regarding the terms of the underlying settlement in question during the time that the settlement was being negotiated and approved by the court.

Latti reserves the right to incorporate all witnesses identified by any other party in its initial disclosure.

(B) Attached at Exhibit A are copies of documents and things in Latti's possession, custody, or control that Latti may use to support its claims or defenses.

Latti reserves the right to support its claims or defenses using any document identified or produced by any other party in its initial disclosures.

(C) Latti does not presently claim damages but reserves its right to do so at a later date, including but not limited to indemnification.

(D) Attached at Exhibit B is a copy of an insurance agreement that may available to satisfy part or all of a judgment against Latti.

> MICHAEL B. LATTI, LATTI ASSOCIATES, LATTI & ANDERSON LLP

By their attorneys,

J. Owen Todd (BBO #499480)

John E. DeWick (BBO #654723)

Todd & Weld LLP

28 State Street, 31st Floor

Boston, MA 02109

(617) 720-2626

Dated: 11/21/05

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

i hereby certify that a true copy of the above document was served upon the attorney of record for each other party by mail hospi on

Case 1:05-cv-11073-NG Document 60-24 Filed 01/02/2007 Page 1 of 3

EXHIBIT W

| UNITED | STATES | | DISTRICT | | COURT |
|--------|--------|----|----------|-----|-------|
| | | FO | RTHE | | |
| DIST | RICT | OF | RHODE | ISI | LAND |

| DENNIS | JAY | DIMON |) | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|---|--------------|-----|-----------|
| VS. | | |) | Civil Action | No. | 81-0063-W |
| JENNY C | J., : | INC. |) | | | |

STIPULATION

In the above entitled cause it is agreed that the following entry be made:

Dismissed with prejudice, no costs. This stipulation is executed in one original and four counter parts, all of which constitute a single document.

APPROVED:

ided States District Judge

harded States District Judge

Defendant's Attorney

Defendant's Attorney

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

DENNIS JAY DIMON)

VS.) C.A. No. 81-0063-W

JENNY C., INC.)

RELEASE

Pursuant to the settlement of this action,
plaintiff hereby releases and discharges defendant
Jenny C., Inc. from its agreement dated February 17,
1983, respecting transfer of the vessel Jenny C. or
other corporate assets.

DENNIS DIMON
By his attorney

May 3, April 19, 1983

LATTI ASSOCIATES 30-31 Union Wharf Boston, MA 02109